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1958

HISTORY  
OF THE  
AMERICAN NEGRO

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WASHINGTON, D. C. EDITION

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EDITED BY  
A. B. CALDWELL

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ORIGINAL EDITION  
ILLUSTRATED

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VOLUME VI

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1922

A. B. CALDWELL PUBLISHING COMPANY  
ATLANTA, GA.

C. K.

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# PREFACE

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This collection of biographies of prominent Negro men and women of Washington, D. C. is Volume VI of the Biographical History of the American Negro. It does not pretend to include all the important men and women of the race in the Capital City, but it does include many of the noblest and best. Others equally prominent and useful, misunderstanding or disapproving of the work, have either ignored the request for data or flatly refused to furnish same.

A book dealing with contemporary men and women can never be made quite complete or exhaustive, for, even while it is being made, some will move or pass away, while others will rise to take their places. We have sought to make the work, at least, representative, dealing with leaders in the educational, religious, professional and business life of the City.

The Editor, who is also the Publisher, is grateful for the cordial spirit of co-operation shown by many of those who were personally interviewed. The writer hopes sometime to bring out a book dealing with types of Washington Negroes (some unknown elsewhere in America), in which it will be proper to set down many interesting things which do not belong in a biographical work.

THE PUBLISHER.



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Chas. Scott

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# EMMETT JAY SCOTT

“Seest thou a man diligent in business; he shall stand before kings.”

The best American stories are not fiction, but a faithful record, simply told, of ambitious energetic boys, catching a vision of a life of service, struggling up through poverty from obscurity to places of large usefulness. American biography has been enriched by many records of this sort. Nor has any race or any section of our great country a monopoly of such stories. The writer knows of no other short period of history, ancient or modern, dealing with a similar number of people, in which there is as much fine story material as may be found in the upward struggle of the American Negro since Emancipation.

Here we tell the story of one who may be said to stand as a representative of the second generation of freedom, Emmett Jay Scott, A. M., LL. D., journalist, author and publicist and now (1921) Secretary-Treasurer of Howard University, Washington, D. C. It is not easy to tell the story without indulging in superlatives, for it is a far cry in distance and in station from the humble home in Texas to a unique position in the war department of the nation at Washington and the office of Secretary-Treasurer of a great university.

Mr. Scott was born at Houston, Texas, Feb. 13, 1873. His father was Horace L. Scott and his mother, before her marriage, Miss Emma Kyle. He laid the foundation of his education in the local public schools. The record of those days in the life of the boy was meager, but he evidently made unusual progress as he attracted the attention of Bishop H. B. Scott and Rev. W. H. Logan, D. D., who encouraged him to go to college. From that day to this Mr. Scott has been attracting the attention of the big men of both races.

He matriculated at Wiley University, Marshall, Tex. in 1887. Like many another successful man, he had to make his own way in college. That entailed hard work not only during the term but during vacation as well, but he has never then nor since been accused of being afraid of hard work. The first year he carried the mail from the post office to the college at which he earned five dollars per month. The

following year he reached college too late for his old job, but there was wood to be cut and hogs to be fed. He was also book-keeper in the president's office and thus early gained valuable experience about the business side of college life and work. Vacation time did not mean rest or play to young Scott, but an opportunity to earn money for next year's expenses. So he worked as janitor at an office building and at a local club, and, by his ambition and his willingness to do more than the mere routine of his job, attracted the attention of those who were in position to help him. In 1890 he left Wiley University. For the next three years he was with the Houston Daily Post and had the unusual experience of doing actual reportorial work. In 1894, he with others, launched "The Freeman," which, under his management, became the most influential paper for colored people in Texas or west of the Mississippi. At that early day he was able to visualize what the programme of that other Negro, just then coming into his own, Booker T. Washington, meant for the race. What he saw so clearly he proclaimed to his people. In 1897 he was called from Texas to Tuskegee to become Secretary to Dr. Washington. Here the man and the opportunity were fairly met. The atmosphere was congenial, the personal contacts helpful and inspiring, and the young man responded and grew to his opportunity so that Dr. Washington before he passed away bore this willing testimony to the helpfulness and efficiency of Mr. Scott's labors: "For many years now," he said, "Mr. Scott has served the school with rare fidelity and zeal and has been to the Principal not only a loyal assistant in every phase of his manifold and frequently trying duties, but has proved a valuable personal friend and counsellor in matters of the most delicate nature, exhibiting in emergencies a quality of judgment and diplomatic calmness seldom found in men of even riper maturity and more extended experience."

For twenty years, since 1901, he has been Secretary of the National Negro Business League and has had as much or more than any other living man to do with the growth and progress of that splendid organization.

In 1912 it was seen by the Trustees of Tuskegee that his grasp of affairs and intimate knowledge of conditions made him the logical man for Secretary of that great institution. He was elected and served till 1919.

During the administration of President Taft, Mr. Scott was made a member of the American Commission to Liberia and visited that republic. His books, "Is Liberia Worth Saving?", is recognized as an authoritative word on that country.

With such a record of accomplishment back of him, it is not strange that when, in 1917, the administration cast about for a man for special assistant to the Secretary of War to advise in matters affecting Negro soldiers, that Mr. Scott was selected. The appointment was made on October 5, 1917, and Mr. Scott at once assumed the duties of his position the like of which no other colored man in America had ever held. It is gratifying to note that the appointment was generally approved by both races. The story of what he did in this important and unique position during nearly two years identity with the War Department, and what the Negro soldier did in the camp and in the field is modestly told and with fine restraint in his "History of the American Negro in the World War." This book is the most important contribution to the historical literature of the war as it relates to the Negro.

After the war he declined numerous business propositions presented to him. He did however accept the Secretary-Treasurership of Howard University, Washington, D. C., where his splendid native ability, coupled with his varied experience and his clear understanding of race relations over the whole country, enable him to serve the institution and the race in a large way.

He collaborated with Dr. Washington in the preparation of "Tuskegee and its People," and with Mr. Lyman Beecher Stowe in "Booker T. Washington, Builder of a Civilization." This latter book appeared in 1916. He has made numerous contributions to the newspapers and magazines from time to time.

On April 14, 1897, Dr. Scott was married to Miss Eleonora J. Baker of Houston, Texas. Mrs. Scott was educated in the schools of Texas. They have five children. Their names are Emmett J., Jr., Evelyn B., Clarissa Mae, Lenora and Horace. In politics, Dr. Scott is a Republican. He belongs to the Methodist Church and is a Mason.

He is forceful and effective as a public speaker, quiet and dignified in his work, and possesses a manner that inspires confidence and co-operation.

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# THOMAS JACOB BROWN

The Protestant Episcopal church, measured by the number of its communicants among the colored people, would be called one of the smaller denominations. In the quality and character of its leadership, however, it is second to none. One of the strong men of the denomination is Rev. Thomas Jacob Brown, A. B., B. D., Rector of St. Lukes Protestant Episcopal Church of Washington, D. C. Dr. Brown is a native of Columbia, S. C., where he was born Aug. 15, 1865, only a few months after emancipation had become an accomplished fact. His father, Joseph Brown was a farmer, his mother's maiden name was Nellie Wallace. Both the paternal and maternal grand-parents were white men.

Young Brown laid the foundation of his education at the Howard School at Columbia and passed from there to St. Augustine School, Raleigh, N. C., for two years. He attended St. Stephen's College, Annandale-on-the-Hudson, N. Y. five years completing the course in 1890. He did his theological work at the Seabury Divinity School, Faribault, Minn., where he won the B. D. degree in 1893. Inspired by simple faith in Jesus Christ and a desire to render efficient service in the kingdom, he pursued his education with determination till he was equipped for the work of the ministry.

On June 26, 1893, he was ordained Deacon at Faribault, Minn. On January 27 of the following year, he was advanced to the priesthood by Bishop T. U. Dudley in the church of Our Merciful Saviour at Louisville, Ky. which he had been serving since his ordination as Deacon in 1893. He remained in charge of that work till January, 1905, when he resigned to become the rector of the St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church in the Capital City of the Nation, which he still holds (1921).

Dr. Brown has been married twice. His first marriage was on Aug. 16, 1894 to Miss Sallie Wilder Richardson daughter of Osear and Cathrina (Cook) Richardson. She bore him two children, Nellie Wilder and Thomas Jacob Brown, Jr. Subsequent to the death of Mrs. Brown, Dr. Brown was married the second time on June 29, 1905, to Miss Lucretia Morris



THOMAS JACOB BROWN

Minor, daughter of Prof. John L. Minor, the distinguished educator, and his wife Marie Minor of Louisville. Of this marriage was born one child, Lucretia Estelle Brown.

While in school Dr. Brown was active in college athletics being especially fond of baseball. Next after the Bible, he has found most helpful such solid works as Butlers Analogy. Among the secret orders he is identified with the Masons.

In Louisville, Ky., Dr. Brown preached the convention sermon in Christ Church Cathedral. His services at Louisville were such that he was called to Washington solely on his record, as he had not been seen by the Vestry. On coming to St. Luke's, he took hold of the work with vigor and enthusiasm. The congregation responded to his leadership and has gone steadily forward under his administration. A troublesome debt of twelve thousand dollars was reduced to eight thousand, and then wiped out without resort to any of the high pressure methods. Dr. Brown is the only colored Episcopal Rector in Washington.

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## SIMEON LEWIS CARSON

The marvelous things accomplished by the modern surgeon, since the introduction of antiseptics, anesthesia and the X-Ray would have been regarded as little short of miraculous a century ago. The science of surgery, which once concerned itself with skill in stanching blood, binding wounds, and supporting broken limbs with splints has advanced step by step till it is now possible to operate successfully on the brain or even the heart. It makes one think of the words of Pope: "A wise physician, skilled our wounds to heal, Is more than armies to the public weal."

If one were to ask almost any colored person in Washington, lay or professional, the name of the most brilliant surgeon in the city, the name of Dr. Simeon Lewis Carson would be given without hesitation. Dr. Carson is a native of the little mountain town of Marion in McDowell County, N. C., where he was born on Jan. 16, 1882. So it will be seen that he is now (1921) still on the sunny side of forty. His parents were Martin and





SIMEON LEWIS CARSON

Harriet Carson. The Carsons removed from North Carolina to Ann Arbor, Mich., when our subject was only two years of age. There must have been unusual qualities in the Carson family. Though the father had been a slave prior to Emancipation, yet in the new environment he was ambitious for his children all of whom made splendid records—some of them brilliant. Along with the rest Simeon Lewis Carson laid the foundation of his education in the public and high schools of Ann Arbor. When ready for his medical course, he matriculated in the Medical College of Michigan University and won his M.D. degree in 1903. He passed the government examination and was appointed Government Physician in the Indian Service and stationed at Lower Brule, S. D. He took up that work in February, 1904, and remained on it till November, 1908. In that year, after another competitive examination, he was appointed Assistant Surgeon of the Freedmen's Hospital, coming to Washington and assuming his duties there November 17, 1908. He held this position for ten years and by the character of his work attracted more than local attention. After that he went into private practice and in the fall of 1919 established a private hospital at Washington in the conduct of which he has met with gratifying success. His hospital on Fourth Street is a modern up-to-date establishment with fifteen beds. Three registered nurses are employed besides other assistants and helpers. It is not possible in an account like this to make a record of the numerous delicate but successful operations Dr. Carson has performed but some idea of his skill may be inferred from the fact that he holds the world's record as to time on the Caesarean Operation. He took that record at sixteen minutes, but has beaten his own record and reduced the time to ten minutes.

While in the Indian Service, Dr. Carson was married on June 21, 1905, to Miss Carol Clark of Detroit, Michigan. Mrs. Carson was educated at Wiberforce University in Ohio. They have two children, one boy and one girl, Clark and Carol Carson—twins.

In politics Dr. Carson is a Republican and belongs to the Methodist Church. He has traveled extensively in this country. His favorite reading after his professional books, consists of history and travel. Among the professional organizations, he belongs to the Medico-Chirurgical Society of

which he was one time President, and the National Medical Association. He is of the opinion that the things most needed by the race are the right sort of education and economy.

---

## KELLY MILLER

If one were selected to choose, from the ten millions of colored people in the United States, the half dozen most outstanding and influential men of the race, one of the first names to recur to the mind of the selector would inevitably be Kelly Miller, A.B., A.M., LL.D., of Washington, D. C.

Dr. Miller is a splendid illustration of what one man born in slavery can accomplish in one generation by sheer force of intellect and character.

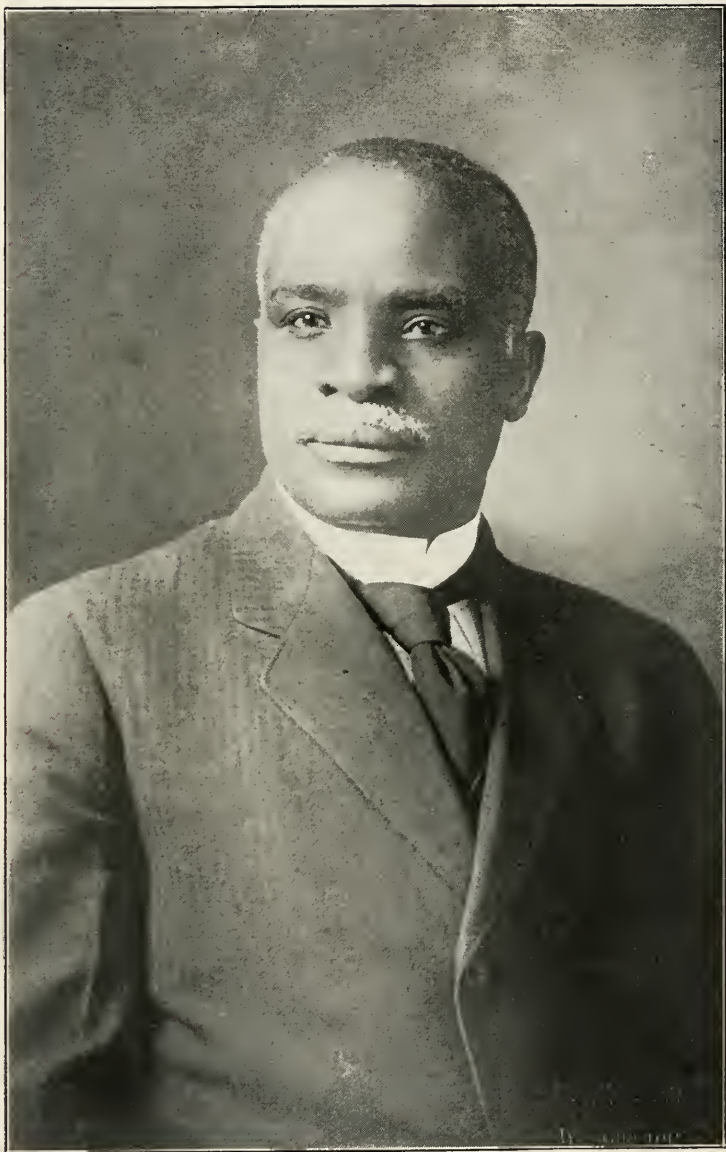
A school teacher by profession, he has stuck to his profession, has never been an office holder, has never sought notoriety, and yet his work has been such that today he is known from one end of this great country to the other.

The story of such a life is worth the telling, both for its example and for its inspiration to the youth of the country. Doctor, or Professor Miller, as he is most commonly called, was born in Winnsboro, Fairfield County, South Carolina, on July 23, 1863, son of Kelly and Elizabeth Miller. His paternal grandmother, Millie Miller, was ambitious for the boy, and her encouragement was an inspiration to him. His maternal grand-father, Joe Roberts, was a native African.

Freedom came when young Miller was yet an infant. His early youth was spent on the farm, where his quickness to understand and natural energy made him the leader in those labors within the scope of boy's strength.

He attended the country schools, such as they were, and early showed the trend of his mind by his marked ability in arithmetic. He possessed the analytical mind in an unusual degree.

At thirteen he entered the Fairfield Institute and there came under the hand of the Rev. Williard Richardson, a Northern Presbyterian preacher and teacher, whose influence on the plastic mind of the boy was the most potent factor in shaping his future life.



KELLY MILLER

At seventeen he left South Carolina for Washington and became a student in Howard University. His life has now been identified with that great institution for forty-one years, with one break of one year. In 1886 he was graduated in the collegiate department with the degree of A.B. From 1887-89 he took post-graduate course in Mathematics and Physics. In the meantime he had taken the Civil Service examination and was for a brief space in the Government service.

His college career had been a distinguished one with an unbroken history of success which forecasted his brilliant future. In 1889 he accepted the chair of Mathematics in Washington High School, but only remained there one year when he was tendered the position of Professor of Mathematics in Howard University, which position he has now filled for thirty-one years with the greatest distinction. He is not only a great Mathematician but is also a great teacher. Since 1908 he has been Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

The South Carolina farm boy at twenty-seven was Professor of Mathematics, only four years after his graduation, in one of the great pioneer schools which has done such a tremendous work for the colored youth of the country. Howard is now one of the most completely equipped Universities of the country and to that result Professor Miller's labors for the last thirty one years have contributed no small part.

The great progress of his youth and early manhood was but the beginning of a career which has in the last thirty years made him one of the widely known men of the country and a true leader of the race in its upward struggle.

This has come about through no demagogic appeals, and no inflammatory harangues, but through his lucidity of statement and his unanswerable logic.

As far back as 1895, he was beginning to make reputation as an essayist and writer of articles in periodicals, and in that year appeared "What Walt Whitman Means to the Negro." That was the forerunner of a long series of articles, essays, letters, and books, each having a definite aim. One of his peculiarities is that he never shoots in the air, but always has a definite aim. In 1899 was printed his address on "The Primary Needs of the Negro Race." In 1905 appeared "From Servitude to Service." In the same year he published an "Open Letter to Thomas Dixon" under the



title: "As to Leopard's Spots." In 1906 came an "Appeal to Reason," being an open letter to John Temple Graves. In 1907 appeared "Roosevelt and the Negro" followed in 1908 by "Race Adjustment". "The Negro as a Religious, Social and Political Factor" followed and 1914 brought forth "Out of the House of Bondage." He had gained a wide following and when, in 1917, he presented "The Disgrace of Democracy" in the form of an open letter to President Wilson it took 150,000 copies to supply the demand. "An Appeal to Conscience" followed in 1918, and in 1920, "Race Statesmanship" and "Radicalism and the Negro." These cited are but some of the better known of his written works, and include but a portion of the incisive statements, all tending to the betterment of the race, which have been the fruit of his incessant labor and prolific pen.

Much of his spare time is spent in the reading of current magazines and newspapers and he thus keeps in constant touch with the current happenings.

Dr. Miller is a publicist in a wide sense, though he would be the last man to call himself such, for all of his work has been permeated by the intense desire to do always and constantly a little more for his people.

He is in great demand as a lecturer and so far as his duties permit he goes forth to speak the word to eager listeners. Through his lectures over the whole country he has a vast acquaintance, and through the written word he has attracted a great army who read with intense interest everything he writes.

Back of his labors has always been the altruistic spirit, to help the man who needs help, but who held in bonds of ignorance or poverty cannot help himself. Though not a preacher he is doing a most successful preaching work.

He holds membership in the Presbyterian Church and in a number of Societies such as: "The Academy of Political and Social Science; American Social Science Association; National Educational Association; American Association for the Advancement of Science; Walt Whitman International Fellowship; American Negro Academy and the Masons.

On July 17, 1894, he was married to Miss Annie May Butler of Baltimore. Mrs. Miller was educated at Baltimore and was before her marriage an accomplished teacher. They have

five children: Kelly, Jr., Isaac Newton, May, Irene, and Paul B. Miller.

The prophet has not been without honor at home, for in 1901 his Alma Mater conferred on him the degree of Master of Arts and in 1903 the highest honor, the degree of Doctor of Laws.

Widely traveled in his own country, of great information and accurate knowledge, a thinker, an orator, and a patriot, Kelly Miller is truly a leader of his people.

A brief sketch such as this must be, can touch only salient points, but brief though it be, the recital is enough to spur to greater effort the young men who have the laudible desire to do something for themselves and others.

In the annals of this generation his name stands high among those who have wrought wisely and well in the progress and development of the race, and it stands high because, like Abou Ben Adhem, "he loves his fellow man."

---

## EDWARD D. WILLISTON

The population of North Carolina is largely rural. The absence of large cities has resulted in many men of the learned professions—law, medicine and the ministry—of both races finding their way to the larger centers of population in other sections, where not a few of them have distinguished themselves, and at the same time reflected credit on their home state. Such a man is Dr. Edward Davis Williston of Washington.

Dr. Williston is a native of Fayetteville, N. C., one of the most historic old towns of the South. It is at the head of navigation on the Cape Fear River and the original settlement was known as Cross Creek. Later when it was incorporated, it was named Campbelltown, then, in honor of General LaFayette, who visited it in 1784, the name was changed to Fayetteville. It has long been the center of a sturdy intelligent population of both races. It was here that Dr. Williston was born on December 24, 1865, following the close of the war in the spring of the same year. His parents were

Frank P. and Henrietta (Henderson) Williston. Frank P. Williston was a man of intelligence and was a pioneer among the colored people to secure an appointment in the Internal Revenue Service. He was for a number of years a store keeper and gauger. He was the son of Joseph and Anne K. Williston. Joseph Williston, who was a teamster and a veterinary surgeon was born in Philadelphia and lived to the ripe old age of 102. His ancestors were from Massachusetts. Dr. Williston also has an interesting ancestry on the maternal side. His mother was a daughter of Abram and Eliza (Sampson) Henderson. Abram Henderson was the son of his master, and was a man of more than ordinary intelligence and enterprise. His wife Eliza Sampson was reared in Fayetteville.

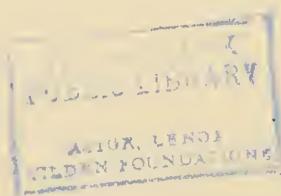
As a boy, young Williston attended the local public schools from which he passed to the State Normal at Fayetteville, completing the course there in 1881. When ready for college, he matriculated at Howard University and won his A. B. degree in 1890. In 1895 the A. M. degree was conferred on him by the same institution. After completing his classical course, he began the medical course at Howard and won his M. D. degree in 1894. The following year was spent at the Freedmen's Hospital as Interne. Let no one imagine from this simple narrative that Dr. Williston had no difficulties to overcome in securing an education. Lack of means made it necessary for him to work at different times as cook or as waiter. He taught school in North Carolina during one vacation and was in the Pullman service after that. The extensive travel and the personal contracts which this service afforded was liberalizing and helpful, apart from the money which it enabled him to earn for his expenses at college.

Dr. Williston enjoys the unusual distinction of having been chosen to a place on the faculty of his Alma Mater the night of his graduation and has been identified with the medical college of Howard University from that time to the present. His first work was in the department of venereal diseases, but he is now (1921) Professor of Obstetrics and for ten years professor of Medical Jurisprudence. He began his private practice in 1895 and has made a name for himself in the professional, business and social life of the city. He has been Obstetrician at the Freedmen's Hospital for twenty five years. Among the secret orders he is identified with the Masons and the Odd Fellows. He belongs to the Medico-Chirurgical So-





Enclosed  
J. H. Weston



ciety of Washington and to the National Medical Association. During the Roosevelt administration, Dr. Williston's practice among those attached to the White House brought him into contact with Col. Roosevelt and there sprang up between the two men a cordial friendship which lasted till the death of the latter.

On March 4, 1896. Dr. Williston was married to Miss Emma Ingram, daughter of Sidney Ingram, Augusta, Ga. Mrs. Williston is a distinguished Musician. She was educated in Washington and her voice has delighted audiences in Australia, South Africa and many other places at home and abroad. They have three children: Sidney, Grace and Edna Williston.

Dr. Williston's work has given him an unusual opportunity to study conditions among his people. He is of the opinion that the thing most needed is the right sort of education, an education which will have to do with moral perceptions and which will find proper presentation through a consecrated trained ministry.

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## GEORGE W. ADAMS, JR.

No record of the professional life of the colored people of the District of Columbia would be complete without some account of that brilliant young physician, Dr. George William Adams, Jr. Dr. Adams is a native of the Capital City, where he was born on March 9, 1894. His father, George William Adams for years a Government employee, is the son of Albert and Harriet (Terrell) Adams. Dr. Adams' mother, before her marriage, was Miss Sarah Q. Cook, daughter of John and Sarah Lee Cook. Both parents are living (1921).

Growing up in Washington, young Adams laid the foundation of his education in the public schools, graduating from what is now the Dunbar High School in 1911. In the fall of the same year, he matriculated at Dartmouth College, where he won his B. S. degree, *cum laude*, in 1915, combining Senior College with first year medicine. Following his graduation from Dartmouth, he entered the School of Medicine of Howard



GEORGE WILLIAM ADAMS, JR.

University from which he was graduated with the M. D. degree in 1918.

Dr. Adams began the practice in Washington in the summer of 1919. Perhaps the best commentary on his record as a student while at Howard and his progress since beginning the practice is the fact that he has been made one of the instructors of his Alma Mater, beginning October, 1921—the youngest man on the faculty of the Medical School. He teaches Physiological Chemistry in Dr. Scurlock's department.

After completing his course at Howard, and before taking up the private practice, Dr. Adams served as Interne at Freedmen's Hospital for one year. He was the holder of the Rosenwald Scholarship at Harvard University, Boston, 1920-21, and is now (1921) on the Visiting Staff of the Freedmen's Hospital.

In politics he is a Republican, but having resided in the District all his life has been automatically disfranchised. He is a member of the Baptist Church, the Chi Delta Mu Medical Fraternity, the Medico Chirurgical Society of the District of Columbia, and the Association of Former Internes of Freedmen's Hospital. He also holds membership in the National Medical Association and in the N. A. A. C. P. After his professional, reading he has a fondness for fiction, and Kipling is one of his favorite authors.

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## DANIEL A. P. MURRAY

There are a number of men still living, whose memory goes well back into the slavery period; a few survive, who were in the midst of the stirring events of the War between the States, but there is only one who under the most favorable conditions for the task, has had the opportunity and the inclination to observe and record through the years of half a century the progress and development, not only of the American Negro, but of the race wherever found. That man is Daniel Alexander Payne Murray, L. L. D. of Washington, D. C., who for more than fifty years has been identified with the Congressional Library.



Mr. Murray is a native of Baltimore, where he was born March 3, 1852. So it will be seen that he was a boy of nine at the outbreak of the war and a youth of fourteen at the close of the great struggle which brought freedom and opportunity to his race in the South. His father, George Murray, was a timber inspector and lived to a ripe old age. His mother, before her marriage, was Miss Eliza Wilson.

Mr. Murray laid the foundation of his education at private school in Baltimore and later attended the Unitarian Seminary in the same city from which he was graduated in 1869. In 1871 he came to Washington to make it his permanent residence, though he was no stranger to the Capital City, as he had been back and forth a great deal and had seen much of life in Washington since childhood. An older brother conducted the Senate Restaurant at the Capital for a number of years, and here the boy gained personal knowledge of many of the great leaders of those great days, including the immortal Lincoln.

In January 1871, he secured an appointment in the Congressional Library and is now (1921) in point of service the oldest man identified with the Library. Here he was made personal assistant to the late Ainsworth R. Spofford and was taught the methods of research which made Mr. Spofford famous. After some years at the Library he recognized the opportunity which was his to render his race and the world a great service, and began patiently to gather and classify material for his Encyclopedia of the Colored Race. The work represents years of patient research in original sources of information, and involved an extensive study of foreign languages. Trained as he was, encouraged by the authorities, and utilizing as only a trained man could the wonderful facilities of the Library, it is fair to say that Dr. Murray's work is monumental.

On April 2, 1879, Dr. Murray was married to Miss Anna Jane Evans, daughter of Henry and Henrietta Evans of Oberlin where she was educated. Of the seven children born to them four are living. They are Geo. Henry, Nathaniel Allison, Harold Baldwin and Paul Evans Murray.

Dr. Murray is active in the business life of the city and is a member of the Washington Board of Trade. He is identified with The Oldest Inhabitant's Society. In politics he is a Republican and was a delegate to the National Convention

which nominated Mr. Taft in 1908 and also to that which nominated Mr. Harding in 1920. He belongs to St. Luke's Episcopal Church in which he has been a vestryman for a dozen years.

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## JOHN WHITELAW LEWIS

The business and professional life of the Capital has been greatly enriched by the men who have come to it from Virginia. Among the successful business men of Washington from that State must be mentioned John Whitelaw Lewis, President of the Industrial Savings Bank. He was born at Bowling Green, Caroline County, Va., on August 31, 1867. His father, Gilbert Lewis, was a railroad man and was the son of Patrick and Charity Lewis. Patrick Lewis was a local Baptist preacher. Mr. Lewis' mother was Matilda Lewis.

On January 11, 1888, he was married to Miss Amy Fortune of Bowling Green, a daughter of Hyder and Harriett Armistead. She was educated at Bowling Green. They have two children, J. Henry Lewis and Embrey R. Lewis.

Conditions were such during Mr. Lewis' boyhood and youth that he was deprived of an education, his schooling being limited to three months in the public school. He has not permitted this fact, however, to stand in the way of his success, but has gone ahead and surpassed many men of better education. The secret of his success has been hard work, coupled with good business judgment. He has been willing to learn from others as he has come in contact with them. In his reading he gives first place to the Bible. After that come books of business and commerce.

About eight years ago he organized at Washington the Industrial Savings Bank of which he has since been President; capital \$50,000.00, 11th and You Streets. This is the only Colored bank in Washington.

Prior to that, in 1907, he organized the Laborer's and Mechanics' Realty Co., of Washington, Capital \$175,000.00. This company own valuable real estate and Mr. Lewis is one of the leading stockholders and a director.



JOHN WHITELAW LEWIS



In 1918, Mr. Lewis promoted and built the Whitelaw Hotel 13th and T. Streets. This is a commodious modern five story building 100x100 feet erected at a cost of \$160,000.00. He is now (1921) promoting a hotel corporation at Atlantic City, N. J.

In politics Mr. Lewis is a Republican, and, while he has never desired or sought office, he is always glad to lend a hand and contribute to the success of the party. He is an active member of the Metropolitan Baptist Church and belongs to the various church clubs. He is identified with the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Elks.

He believes the progress of the race is to be promoted by the better classes of both races striving to down that eating cancer race prejudice and permitting men and women to work and be paid for their service in proportion to the amount of work turned out by them.

Mr. Lewis has not only succeeded himself but has pointed the way by which others may succeed.

As a boy and young man Mr. Lewis worked on the farm and at saw milling. His work on the farm brought him ten dollars a year—when he was older and stronger and went to the saw mill to work he made six dollars per month. Then he went to Pennsylvania and New Jersey for a while. In 1894 he came to Washington with Coxey's Army. He went to work at ninety cents a day for twelve hours work. at the same time he did some thinking and in 1897 organized the Hod Carrier's Union. Wages were boosted from \$1.25 per day to \$2.25 without a strike. He observed that his fellow laborers were spending their money for nothing and this led to their organization for business. They began with a capital of \$13.50, which soon grew to thousands. One house was bought and then another, and then vacant lots, while now numbers of members of residences and business structures are handled or financed. The Bank followed and at the end of four years had three hundred depositors and \$35,000.00. Under his presidency the bank has grown in strength and popularity, so that there are now eleven thousand accounts and \$800,000.00. Best of all Mr. Lewis and his organizations have the confidence of the business world, and he himself stands high in the estimation of the leaders of both races.

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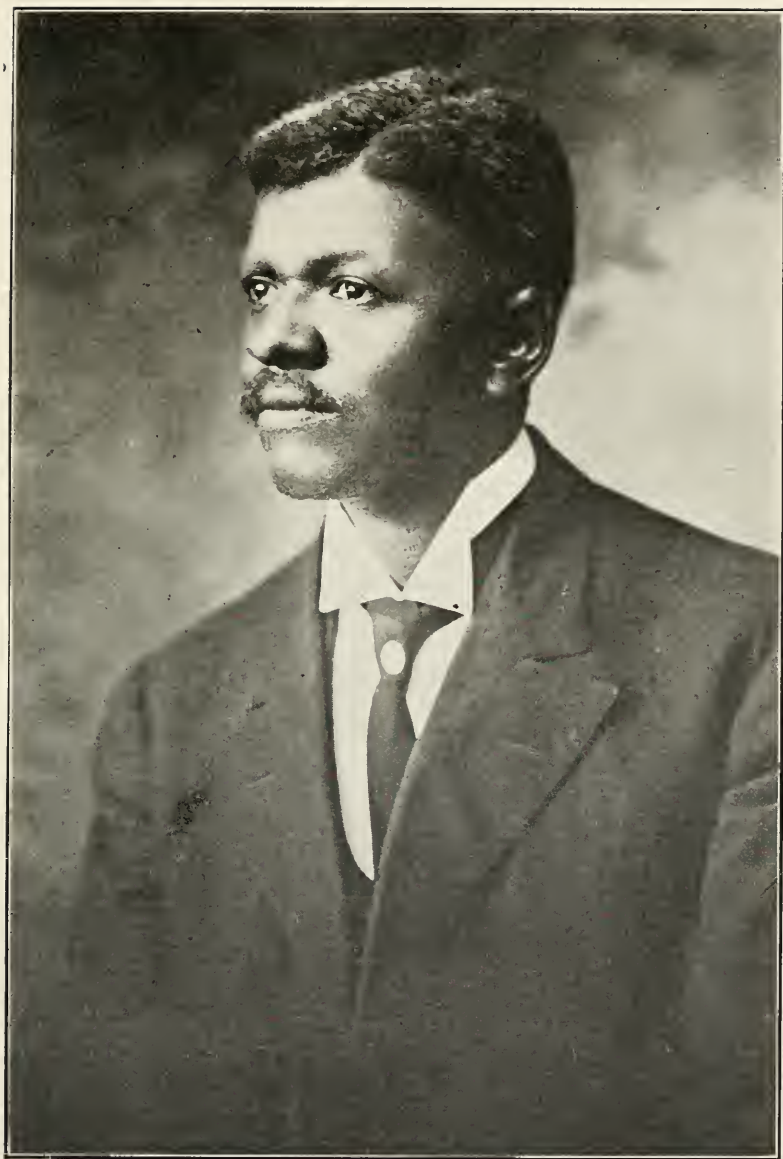
# JOHN N. C. COGGIN

A careful observer of social and religious conditions has said, "One great want of the times is a commanding ministry—a ministry of a piety at once sober and earnest and of the mightiest moral power. Give us these men, 'full of faith and of the Holy Ghost,' who will proclaim old truth with new energy. Men of sound speech, who will preach the truth as it is in Jesus, who will preach it apostle-wise, that is, 'first of all,' the source of all morals and the inspiration of all charity—the sanctifier of every relationship and the sweetener of every toil. Give us these men—men of zeal untiring, whose hearts of constancy quail not, although dull men sneer, and timid men blush, proud men scorn, cautious men deprecate and wicked men revile."

A man of the M. E. Connection who seeks to render just this sort of service is Rev. John Nelson Clark Coggin, A. B., D. D. of Washington, D. C., Dr. Coggin is a native of Mississippi, having been born at Abbeville in Lafayette Co. on May 8, 1870. His father, Daniel Coggin, an humble farmer, was the son of Vinie Coggin. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Miss Martha Blakely, daughter of Daniel Blakeley.

Dr. Coggin had his elementary education in the public schools and did his preparatory work at Rust University, Holly Springs, Miss. For his regular college work, which he did not take till after he had entered the ministry, he went to Clark University, Atlanta, and won his A. B. degree in 1899. Prior to this he had pursued the theological course at Gammon Theological Seminary from which he has the B. D. degree. His course was a bit irregular and carried on in the face of difficulties, but the main thing with the young preacher was the adequate equipment of himself for the serious work of life.

Young Coggin was converted at the tender age of ten and joined the Providence Methodist Church. No sooner had he given his heart to God and come into the kingdom than he realized that his work in life must be that of preaching the Gospel. To his sainted mother, he gratefully gives credit for



JOHN NELSON CLARK COGGIN

the inspiration which started him on the right way and held him steady during the years of his youth. When about sixteen years of age he was licensed to exhort by a white presiding elder at Spring Hill, Miss. He joined the conference at Holly Springs, Miss. in 1888 under Bishop Andrews and was assigned to the Holly Springs Circuit. He was successful from the beginning and served that circuit for four years, during which time a new house of worship was erected at Calvin's. He was then transferred to Atlanta which gave him the much coveted opportunity to complete his education. He was appointed to a mission on Bellwood Ave., where he preached for five years. This work developed under his ministry and is now St. Luke's M. E. Church, a self-supporting charge. From that work he went to the Fort Street Church, Atlanta. Here too, the church property was improved and the membership greatly strengthened in numbers and in power. His next appointment was the Grantville Circuit. He was called from this field after a little more than two years to become Field Secretary of the Young People's Christian and Educational Congress. This was inter-denominational work and took him to every part of the country. When, after a little more than a year in this work failing health made it necessary for him to give up field work, he resigned and went back into the pastorate. He was sent to Grace M. E. Church at Covington, Ga., which he served continuously for eight years. The church experienced its greatest period of prosperity under his ministry. Both the church and the parsonage were greatly improved and Dr. Coggin soon to be recognized by both races as a safe leader among his people. He had the support and co-operation of the leading white business and professional men of the city. In 1914 he was appointed first Secretary of the colored Dept. of the Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals of the M. E. Church. His work is educational, inspirational and evangelistic. He is the first colored man designated by his church to do reform work among the colored people and also the first regularly appointed colored evangelist of the church. In connection with his work he has organized the Inter-Collegiate Prohibition and Public Morals League which is being organized in the Negro Colleges of America.

On Jan. 30, 1893, Dr. Coggin was happily married to Miss Jessie Gray Hill of Holly Springs, Miss. Mrs. Coggins was

educated at Holly Springs and takes an active interest in the work of her husband.

While residing at Covington, Ga., Dr. Coggin founded the Independent Order of Woodmen. That was July 4, 1908. His removal from Georgia to Washington, made necessary by the character of his work, together with a re-adjustment of rates, practically suspended the active operation of the order. Recently the order has been incorporated and licensed to do business in the District of Columbia with the promise of a bright future. So it will be seen that Dr. Coggin is a pioneer in more fields than one. His work has given him an unusual opportunity to study conditions and he is of the opinion that what the Negro most needs at this time is, first, soul stirring evangelism among the religious leaders of the race, and second on the part of the laity, what might be called a practical workable religion which concerns itself less about heaven and hell and more about this present life and how to make it worthy.

In 1907 Rust University conferred on him the D. D. degree in recognition of his work and attainments.

If the life and work of Dr. Coggin teaches anything it teaches that poverty and obscurity are no bar to prosperity and success if a man's heart is right and he is not afraid to work.

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## ALEXANDER WILLBANKS

The Bible is our authority that some men are called to be pastors, some teachers, some evangelists, etc. No one who knows of the work of Rev. Alexander Willbanks, D.D. of Washington or who has ever seen him in action will doubt that he was called to be an evangelist. He has been called the Black Billy Sunday, but that is a soubrequet which the white newspapers gave him and describes him only to the extent that he puts all his powers, physical, mental and spiritual into his messages. Beyond that the term is applicable only as a display line for newspaper headings, for Dr. Willbanks is no imitator of Billy Sunday or of any one else. He





ALEXANDER WILLBANKS



is himself and goes about his God given task in his own way. He is at his best before an audience—the bigger the better. He never preaches to empty pews.

Dr. Willbanks is a native of Mississippi, having been born in Noxubee county on March 4, 1879. His parents Andy and Amanda Willbanks were slaves prior to Emancipation. Back of them he knows nothing of his earlier ancestors except that his grandmother was Maria Bishop. This lack of information is due to the absence of written records.

When young Willbanks was about four years of age, the family moved to Hinds County, Miss., and it was there in the public schools that he laid the foundation of his education. After reaching his teens he went to school at Greenville, Miss., for five or six years. At an early age, perhaps when about fifteen, he was converted and joined the Baptist Church. Soon after that while still little more than a boy he was called to preach. There was not then nor has there been since a doubt in his mind as to the divine call. He was licensed in 1894 at Greenville and later ordained to the full work of the ministry in Texas. In the meantime he had attended Natchez College for a couple of years. He had a special course of study under Prof. Cantee of Dallas. After moving to Washington he pursued his theological studies at Howard University.

After the death of his father, the care of his mother fell to Dr. Willbanks. She became blind, and with loving care he ministered to her till the Lord took her. She found great comfort in the life and work of her distinguished son.

On April 14, 1914, Dr. Willbanks was married to Miss Lottie Dixon of Washington, an accomplished young woman who acts as private secretary to her husband.

While Dr. Willbanks great work has been that of evangelism he has done enough regular pastoral work to indicate what a success he might have made had his energies been turned in that direction. Needless to say he has declined numerous calls from churches in various parts of the country.

He began preaching at Lamar, Texas, and was successful from the beginning. In those days he was known as the boy preacher. He served the First Church at Double Bayou for a year and St. John's at Dallas, two years. He attended the National Convention in Washington more than twenty five years ago and was called to the Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

In a pastorate of six years five hundred members were added. When he went to the Va. Ave. church there were 32 members, when he left at the end of sixteen years, there were 1,600 members. In 1917 he accepted the call of the Tenth Street Church where the membership shot up from 22 to 1,356. He was a delegate to the great Baptist World Congress which met in London prior to the war. While, abroad, he had numerous invitations to preach and had the honor of speaking in the great Spurgeon Tabernacle.

Almost from the beginning of his ministry he gave special attention to evangelistic work and found it such a fruitful field of labor that he came to be known from one end of the country to the other.

He combines the fervor and enthusiasm of the Southern preacher with the most effective methods of the great evangelists who have gone before him. He is a master of audiences, and plays upon their emotions as a musician plays upon the strings of his instrument. At one time his hearers will be convulsed in laughter only to find themselves in a few moments looking through their tears. He not only preaches, but he lives and acts his messages before the people and they respond as he unfolds to them the Gospel and makes plain the ways of Salvation. Thousands and thousands have been reclaimed or converted under his ministry. He will tell you that in 1920 alone as many as ten thousand persons professed conversion or renewed their allegiance.

Great crowds throng his services—white and colored. One would hardly expect to see an old Southern town like Savannah or Charleston turn out to welcome a negro preacher with a great parade and yet that is just what transpired at both places, as well as in the North and East. He has been and is active in various denominational enterprises and is on several trustee boards, but after all has been said he is primarily an evangelist and it can be said of him as it was said of his master in the long ago, "The common people heard him gladly."

In 1919 the National Baptist Convention created the Evangelistic department and he was one of those appointed under that department. The report for 1920 showed that he led in numbers.

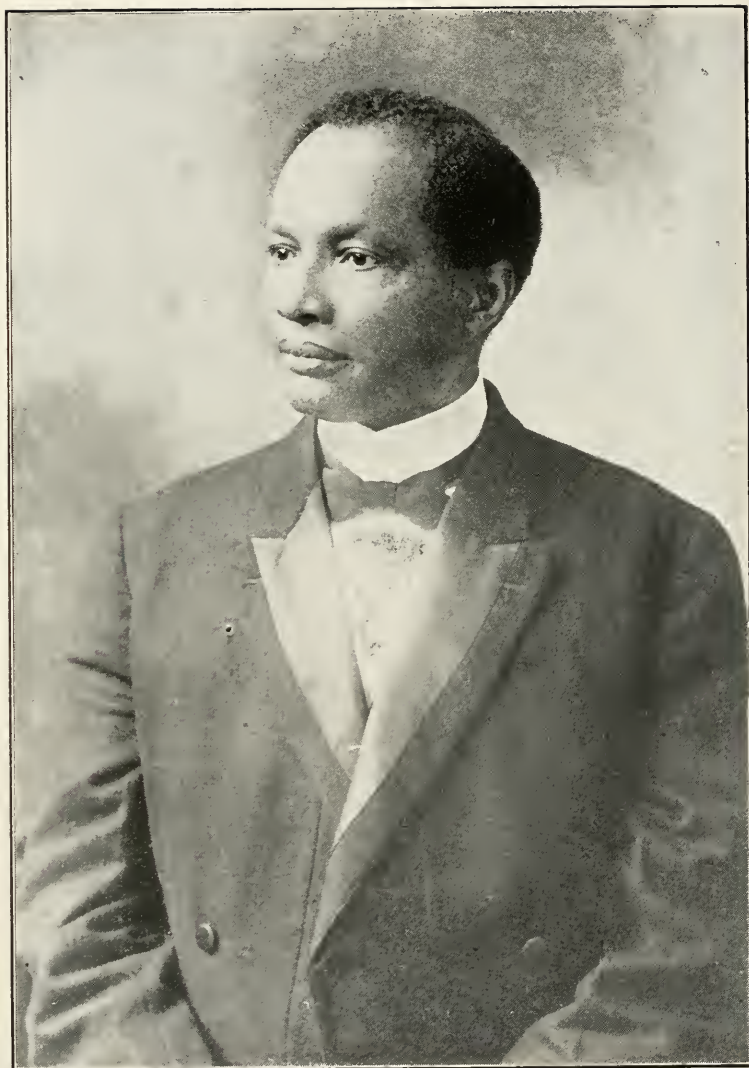
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# WILLIAM B. CARROLL

Rev. William Benjamin Carroll, B.D., D.D., pastor of the Union Baptist Church of Washington, is a versatile man whose fine sense of humor and ready wit make friends for him and for his work wherever he goes. He is a native of the historic old town of Montgomery, Ala., where he was born on Jan. 25, 1867. His father, Adam Herman Carroll, was a son of Peter Carroll. The mother of our subject was named Matilda. On the paternal side he inherits a strain of Irish blood. His mother's people were from North Carolina and on one side was of Indian extraction. So it will be seen that Dr. Carroll bears in his veins the blood of three races. There is no way to tell how such a combination might work as a rule, but in his case it has turned out well, as Dr. Carroll has attained a measure of success of which no man of either race need be ashamed, when his lack of early opportunities is taken into consideration.

Growing up in Alabama, he was accustomed to do all sorts of hard work and attended the short term schools which were available in those days. From the rural schools he passed to the State Normal at Montgomery where he took the Normal Course. Here he came under the influence of that noble man, Prof. Patterson, who greatly influenced and helped to inspire him in his struggle for an education. Such was his desire to get on that he did not shy at anything which offered an opportunity to make money for his course. After he left the cotton patch, he learned the barber trade and in that way helped himself through school. When he reached the point where he could secure a license, he began teaching and after that, the way was easier. He taught in the public schools of Alabama for a dozen years. When about seventeen years of age, he was soundly converted and joined the Methurdsa Baptist Church.

Having passed the Civil Service examination in 1898, he left Alabama for the Capital City where he has since resided. His first appointment was to the War Department. Later he was transferred to the Treasury Department to which he is still attached, being identified with the office of the Comptroller of the Currency.



WILLIAM BENJAMIN CARROLL

After coming to Washington, he continued active in church work and soon felt called to preach the Gospel. He was licensed and later ordained to the full work of the ministry. feeling the need of better training, he matriculated at Howard University for his theological course which he completed with the B. D. degree in 1907. His first call was to the pastorate of the Alexander Memorial Church. In fact, he organized this church. A new house of worship was erected during his pastorate, which lasted for seven and a half years. During that time a good congregation was built up. In 1916 he organized the Union Baptist Church at Eighth and R. Streets. Here a building was bought and the work has gone steadily forward under his ministry. He has been recognized by the denomination and given a place on the Executive Committee of the Mt. Bethel Baptist Association. In politics he is a Republican and has had frequent opportunity to do campaign work but has held steadily to his Civil Service appointment. Among the secret orders, he is identified with the Masons Odd Fellows and Pythians. He is an active member of the N.A.A.C.P. Apart from his own pastorates he has, especially during the summer months, done considerable evangelistic work.

On Aug. 19, 1891, Dr. Carroll was married to Miss Kate Thomas of Montgomery. She was a teacher at Tuskegee before her marriage. Of the three children born to them, none survive.

Dr. Carroll has given considerable attention to real estate dealing. He is a good judge of values and had he chosen to pursue business lines would doubtless made a fine success. His favorite reading consists of the Bible, history, commercial and general law, psychology and scientific works.

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## JOHN MILTON WALDRON

Rev. John Milton Waldron, A.B., D.D., LL.D., pastor of the Shiloh Baptist Church of Washington belongs to a type which has meant so very much to the business and professional life of America. In the first place he is a man of good native ability—sometimes for want of a better term, we call it common sense. On this foundation a liberal education has





JOHN MILTON WALDRON

been built through the years. He is a man of great enthusiasm and tireless energy, but possessed of a steadiness withal which sees a thing through. Along with these qualities he has executive ability which enables him to get results through co-operation with others.

Dr. Waldron belongs to a large host of Baptist preachers sent out by the Old Dominion, for he is a native of Lynchburg, Va., where he was born in the midst of the war between the states, on May 19, 1863. His father is Isaac Waldron and his mother, before her marriage, was Miss Susan Gilmore Barrett. Coming of school age after the war, young Waldron attended the local public schools in Louise and Amherst Counties, Va., and passed from them to the Richmond Institute, now Virginia Union University, for his preparatory training. When ready for college, he matriculated at Lincoln University where he won his A.B. degree in 1886. He pursued his theological studies at Newton Theological Institution in Massachusetts, from which he was graduated in 1889. Later the degree of D.D. was conferred on him by Lincoln University and the degree of LL.D. by The Frelinghuysen University. When a youth of seventeen, he gave his heart to God and dedicated his life to the work of the Gospel Ministry. He joined the Fifth Baptist Church of Richmond, and was Secretary of the Richmond Y. M. C. A. for a little more than a year. After he was through the Seminary and while in the Y. M. C. A. work he lectured in various parts of the country frequently speaking in white churches and Y. M. C. A.'s on the Race Question. His first regular pastorate was the Berean Baptist Church of Washington to which he went in 1890 and which he served for a year and a half. He resigned that work to accept the pastorate of the Bethel Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Fla. Here his constructive ability and his genius for organization was well illustrated. He reorganized that Church and put it on the basis of an institutional church which is said to be the first church of its kind among colored people in America and one of the first institutional churches of any race in the South. The great Jacksonville fire of 1901 swept away the church and made it necessary to rebuild. For more than fifteen years Dr. Waldron labored in that far Southern field where he had a most fruitful ministry. His church was frequented each year by many visitors to Jacksonville of both races and he made many friends for himself



and for his work while there. In 1906 he resigned that work to accept a call from the Shiloh Baptist Church of Washington where he has since resided and labored. This account of his pastoral work, however, is by no means the measure of his activity. He has done considerable evangelistic work and is in demand as a public speaker. His voice has been heard in every part of this great country. In 1890 he edited the "Young Men's Field Magazine"; from 1890-92 he published the "Alley Mission Herald," and from '93-'94 "The Defender." He was editor of "The Florida Evangelist" for five years and "The Florida Standard" for two years. He organized and was for a number of years president of the Afro-American Industrial and Benefit Association. He is primarily a religious leader, however, and the work by which he is best known is that of preacher and religious teacher. He organized the Alley Improvement Association and is its president. He is also president of the National Gospel Workers' Aid Society, the object of which is the giving to the masses of Church members a better and more practical working knowledge of the Bible. Millions of pages of printed matter and many thousands of portions of the Bible have been distributed throughout the country. The organization was especially active among the soldiers during the World War. Dr. Waldron himself lectures and holds Bible Study and Prayer Institutes, believing that the real progress of the race in the last analysis is a question of right leadership, beginning in the lives of the children and finding expression in homes of piety as well as in the right kind of religious instruction and living in the churches. Dr. Waldron was one of the organizers of the N. A. A. C. P. He is a vice-president of the National Temperance Society and Publishing House and a trustee of the Anti-Saloon League, of Washington; a trustee of The Washington City Bible Society and a director of The National Race Congress and a member of the Board of Directors of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention. He is also identified with the Evangelical Ministers Alliance and was a member of the Inaugural Committee which inducted President Wilson into office after his first election. In politics he is a Reformer and a strong advocate of the public ownership of public utilities and minority representation in Congress, State and Municipal legislative bodies.

On April 18, 1892, Dr. Waldron was married to Miss Martha N. Matthews of Albany, N. Y., who was at the time one of the popular public school teachers and leaders in social and church circles of Washington, D. C. Dr. Waldron attributes a very large part of the success he has had in life to the influence and noble life of his now sainted mother, and to the common sense, cheerful disposition, high ideals, strong faith and fidelity to her God and her husband that have always characterized his wife.

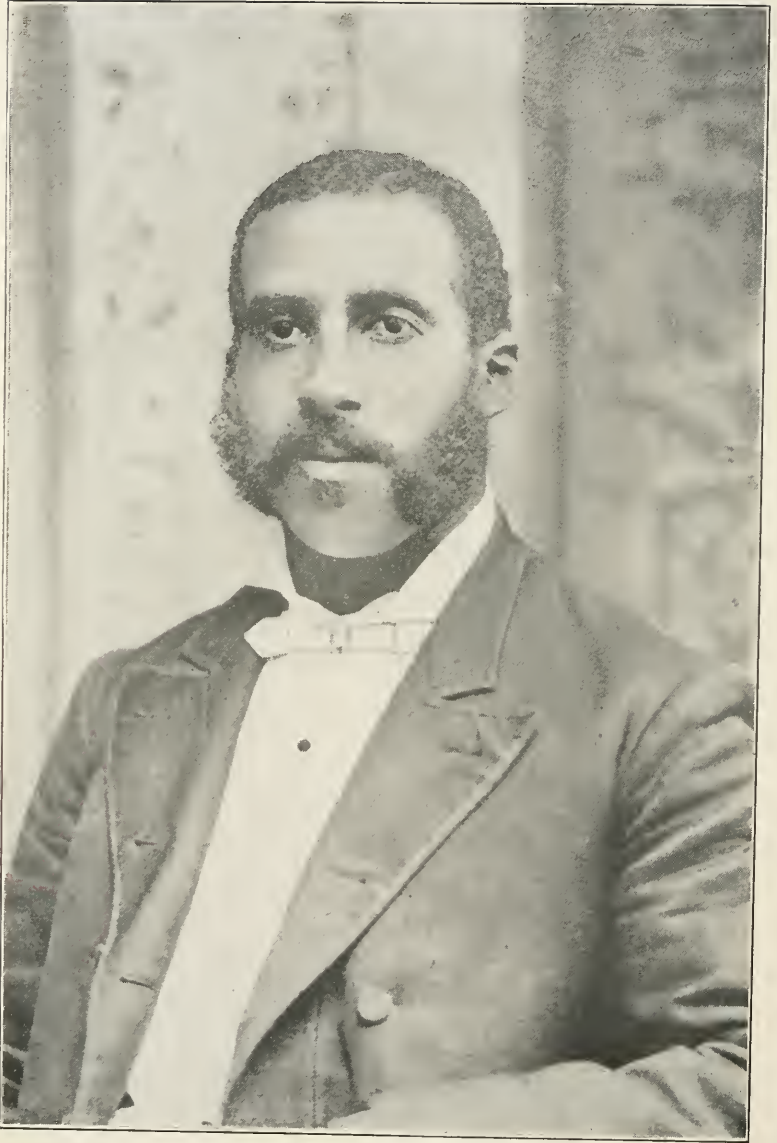
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## JUNIUS ISAAC LOVING

The Rev. J. I. Loving of Washington, D. C., at present pastor of St. John's Baptist Church of Arlington, Va., also now and for 27 years past Secretary of the Ministerial Association of Washington and vicinity has accomplished during his rather more than 60 years of life a great work, and is known as the Baptist Encyclopedia of Washington and vicinity. He was born at Richmond, Va., April 17, 1858. His father Landon Loving was a farmer in Nelson Co., his mother, Angelina Moone, more commonly known as Peters, after her master's name. His father was his master's body guard. His maternal grandfather was a white man. Dr. Loving's parents were separated a month before he was born and he never saw his father in the flesh until he was nearly 20 years of age. He heard of him through a friend who worked in the Pension Office and a meeting, including the other children, was arranged and brought joy to the hearts of father and children alike. Dr. Loving's early history illustrates some of the sad features of human slavery.

The first schooling he received as a boy was some years after the Civil War, when his mother paid one dollar a month to a nearby private school to teach him. Later public schools were established and he divided his time between work and school attendance. In his studies night school played a part. After laboring to secure a home for his mother and helping his stepfather he tried his hand at teaching a private school.

Dr. Loving was converted in 1877 and joined the First Baptist Church of Midlothian, Va., and was baptised by Rev.



JUNIUS ISAAC LOVING

Henry Braxton. The family was, at that time, living at what was called the Garrison on the James River four or five miles from Midlothian.

He almost immediately felt the call to preach, and this led to his going to Washington, D. C., where for nearly three years he worked in a drug store and studied medicine. Feeling still more strongly the call to the ministry he engaged with Dr. S. Voelveld, a druggist, to work with him nights and mornings so that he might attend school. The doctor wanted him to become a physician, but he felt the call of God and obeyed. He had already connected himself with the Third Baptist Church. After one year at Howard University he entered Wayland Seminary where he remained until he was graduated. During much of this time he taught a night school to help himself along. Wayland Seminary was later merged into Richmond (Va.) Institute the merged schools taking the name of Virginia Union University and Dr. Loving is therefore an alumnus of that institution.

Our subject was licensed to preach in 1882. Three years later, in 1885, he was ordained to the full work of the ministry by the Third Baptist Church of Washington, D. C. Entering upon his ministerial work he became pastor of two churches, Providence Church at Leesburg, Va., and Mt. Pleasant at Goorsville, Va. He remained there about three years, paid the debt on the Leesburg church and built up both congregations.

Then called to Mt. Zion Church, Washington, D. C., he found a big debt which he reduced by \$4,845.00, leaving only \$3,500.00 unpaid, at the same time he was pastor of the congregation at Mt. Oliver Church Lincoln, Va., where he remodeled the house of worship and there many souls were added to the church. The First Baptist Church at Warrenton, Va., was the next pastorate and there a great work was done, as he says, "by the help of the Holy Spirit." He also organized at that time Zion Church at Waterford, Va., where there had never before been a colored Baptist Church. He was also pastor of Shiloh Church at Ash Grove, where under God a great and good work was accomplished.

By this time he had become known as one who could handle difficult problems so he was called to Enon Church, Washington, D. C., in 1897. The situation was involved by the environ-

ment and by the fact that he had but a little building on lots to which the title was not clear.

It was predicted that he would not stay over two years. The prophets did not know the man. He threw himself into the work, the hardships were many, but he never faltered and trusted God. Twenty years and three months he labored. He cleared the land titles, raised and put into a commodious brick church over \$25,000. He left to his successor a strong congregation with an excellent plant now valued at \$30,000.00 or more.

Then followed his present work referred to in the first paragraph. Since his graduation in 1885 it will be noted from the foregoing brief record that Dr. Loving has put in 36 years of very strenuous work.

Dr. Loving is a pleasing writer as well as speaker holding the attention of his hearers. His booklets on "Faith" and on "Ministerial Dignity" have both had wide reading. He has in course of preparation a book entitled "Incidents in a Pastor's Life," in which he recalls in his own peculiar style the interesting and sometimes amusing experiences of a long pastorate. He possesses a genial temperament with a keen sense of humor, tells a good story and has a fund of entertaining reminiscences which would make a most readable book if published.

He is probably well known by more of the ministers of his church in Washington than any other man of the profession and the number of his friends steadily increases.

His life is a record of strong and constructive work. Dr. Loving considers that the most helpful things that can be done for his people is for the stronger white race to give them justice and for the colored people to educate themselves, securing higher education as far as they can, and he believes most of them can secure this by proper efforts.

He has been essentially a man of work. In his reading the Bible has been naturally the foundation, while "Pilgrim's Progress," "Tribute of Flowers," "To the Memory of Mothers," and some poetical works have had prominent places.

He has traveled over our northern and southern states and has a fairly comprehensive grasp of our own country. He is a Republican in politics, is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, Samariatans, having held prominent



positions in two last named. He was married January 28, 1886, to Miss Frances Hart daughter of Washington and Amanda Hart of Culpeper, Va. He holds the degree of B.Th. from Wayland Seminary and of D.D. from Virginia Union University.

After nearly forty years of service Dr. Loving can look back with satisfaction on the way he has traveled with the knowledge that the years have been filled with conscientious, continuous, constructive and unselfish labor all directed to the building of God's kingdom on earth.

Dr. Loving's standing in the denomination may be inferred from the fact that he is a member of the executive board of the Northern Virginia Association and member of the education board of the same body. He was Secretary of the first Washington Association organized and is a trustee of the Stoddard Baptist Old Folks Home.

He was with the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention in its organization and is a member of the executive board of that convention.

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## GEORGE H. BUTCHER

Many men starting in business or entering upon a profession, feel that they can best succeed by going away from the scenes of their boyhood. Hence in a city like Washington one finds professional men from almost every State in the Union. But they are not all outsiders. Occasionally there is to be found a man born and reared in Washington, who has had the vision to see the possibilities of the Capital City of the Nation and whose work has been a credit to him and to his profession. One such man is Dr. George Herbert Butcher who has been practicing dentistry in Washington for eighteen years.

Dr. Butcher was born on Feb. 13, 1879. His parents were James W. and Christiana (Nichols) Butcher. Growing up in Washington, young Butcher attended the local public and high schools. When ready for his dental course he matriculated at Howard University, where he won his D.D.S.



GEORGE HERBERT BUTCHER



degree in 1903. While in school, he was an enthusiastic base ball player.

On completion of his course at Howard he entered upon the practice and soon made a place for himself in his chosen profession. He was at one time Pres. of the Robt. T. Freeman Dental Society of D. C. and for eight years its secretary. He was Vice-President and is member of the executive board. He was the first vice-president of the Tri-State now the Inter-State Dental Society and a member of the National Medical Association. So it will be seen that he is a leader among those who stand for the ethics of the profession and for its fullest development along all legitimate lines. Among the secret orders, he is identified with the Masons. In politics he is a Republican, but having resided in the District all his life is automatically disfranchised. He is a member of the Episcopal church.

Dr. Butcher was married November, 1913, to Miss Septemia West of Charlottesville, Va. Mrs. Butcher was educated at Hartshorn Memorial College of Richmond and was before her marriage an accomplished teacher. They have two children, John and Rosalind Butcher.

Dr. Butcher was not called into the service during the war but did quite a bit of free work for the enlisted men.

Out of years of observation, he concludes that the greatest bar to the progress of his race—of any race—is ignorance. Hence the greatest need is the right sort of education.

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## HENRY JESSE CALLIS

Rev. Henry Jesse Callis, D.D., now (1921) stationed at Washington, D. C., is one of the most active and resourceful men of the A.M.E. Zion connection. He is a native of the Old Dominion, having been born in Matthews County, about 1858, the exact date being unobtainable in the absence of written records. His father, Jesse Callis, was the keeper of a grist mill and his mother's maiden name was Nettie Smith.

On June 8, 1897, Dr. Callis was married to Miss Nellie Amelia Turner, a daughter of Marcellus L. and Margaret A.



HENRY JESSE CALLIS

Turner, of Geneva, N. Y. Mrs. Callis was educated in the State of New York. They have five children: Henry A., Roy N., Aliee L. M., Leon T., and Harold J. Callis.

As a boy in Virginia, young Callis fell in with the Union soldiers during the war and was carried to Yorktown. Here he was taught by the Quakers and was sent from there to Hampton Orphanage, which was the beginning of Hampton Institute. A Capt. Coitt of Connecticut was in the hospital and it was here that he attracted the attention of the Captain's mother and sister. They took him North with them, and he spent a year and a half with the Jenkins family in New York. He then went to Long Island and from there to Orient, where he was under the care of Deacon Hallock for three years. He attended the public school in Riverhead Township, Long Island, N. Y. Returning South he entered Hampton Institute, where he spent four busy happy years. He had \$45.00 when he reached Hampton, which meant that it was necessary for him to work, which he did with a will. He completed his work there in 1879. He has done special work at Cornell University in political economy, Bible history, and psychology. His theological studies were pursued at Rochester under Dr. Strong. In his struggles for an education he was entirely dependent on his own efforts and resources. He would not permit the obstacles in his way to discourage him, however. Rather they became an incentive to greater effort.

Dr. Callis was converted when thirteen years of age while on Long Island. The call to preach came early. He finally decided to preach after having read law for a while. After his work at Hampton he taught in the public schools of Virginia two years.

He joined the Conference at Elmira, N. Y., in 1891 under Bishop J. P. Thompson. His first pastorate was at Ithaca, N. Y., where he preached four years and built a new house of worship at a cost of \$3,500. It was while here that he attended Cornell. From Ithaca he was transferred to the Pacific Coast and served the Star King A.M.E. Zion station at San Francisco for one year. Returning East, he preached at Rochester one year; Syracuse three years; Elmira one year and Binghamton one year. No new building, but much debt paying was done at these points. He was then transferred to the South and stationed at Elizabeth City, N. C., for two and a half years and began to gather funds for a new church.

His next appointment took him to Boston where he preached four years and canceled a \$41,000.00 debt—the biggest debt of any church in the Connection. From there he went to Indianapolis, Ind., for two and a half years and thence to Walters Station, Chicago, Ill., for five and a half years. In 1916 he was appointed to the Wesley Metropolitan Station at the National Capitol. It will thus be seen that Dr. Callis' work has taken him to every part of the country. This has given him an unusual opportunity to study conditions and he is of the opinion that the progress of the race may best be promoted "by the development of honest race leaders and sympathetic cooperation with other races." One gets some measure of his intellectual capacity from the fact that his favorite reading is in the realm of history, biography, philosophy, and theology. As he looks back over his boyhood and youth he recalls with gratitude the happy influence on his life of the religious training in the home of Deacon G. W. Hallock of Orient, N. Y. and the environment and teaching at Hampton.

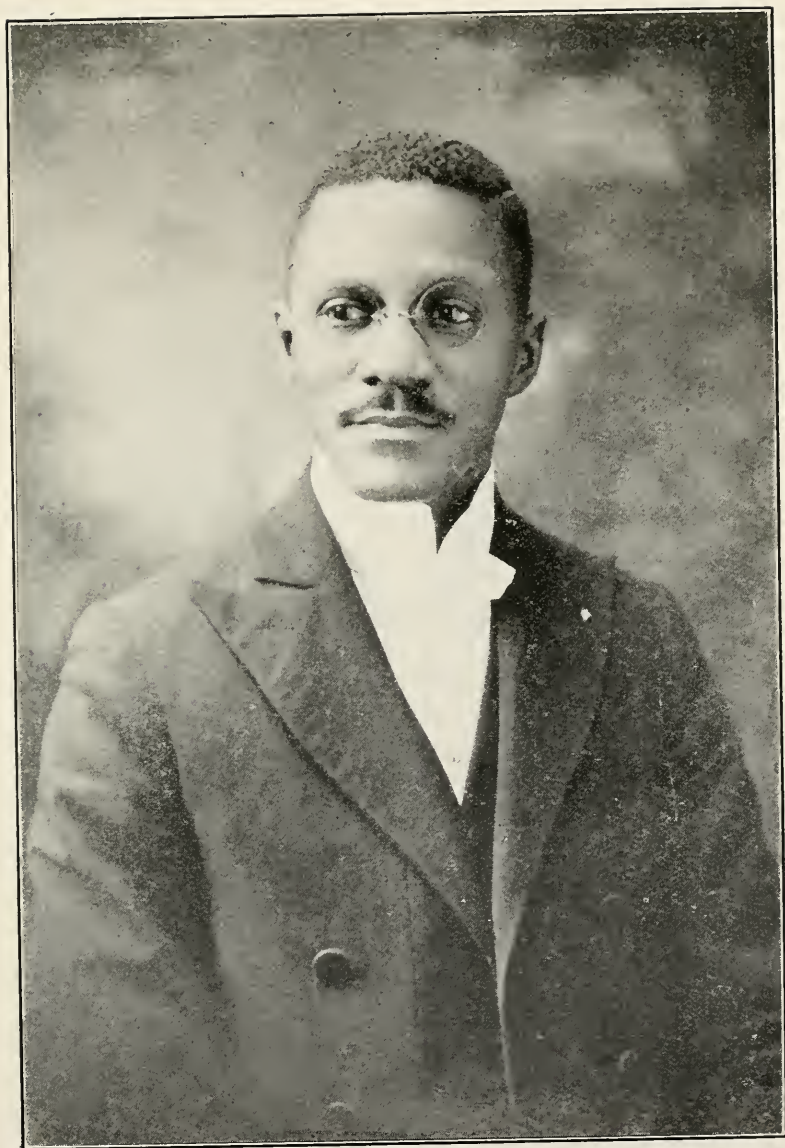
In politics Dr. Callis is a Republican and in Boston and Chicago was active in the council of the party. He is a Mason and an Odd Fellow and is Executive Secretary of the national Race Congress, Inc.

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## JULIUS S. CARROLL

One of the most resourceful and successful young men of the M. E. Connection is Rev. Julius Sylvester Carroll A.B., B.D., of Washington, now (1921) stationed at Asbury M. E. Church. Dr. Carroll is a native of Maryland, having been born at Baltimore on Feb. 18, 1877. His father, Rev. Henry Addison Carroll, was also a Methodist minister, and his mother, before her marriage, was Miss Sarah Ann Ockermay. Brought up in the wholesome atmosphere of a Christian home, it is not strange that the boy's thoughts early turned to religious matters.

He laid the foundation of his education in private schools at Alexandria, Va. and Washington, D. C. When ready for college he matriculated at Morgan College, Baltimore, and



JULIUS SYLVESTER CARROLL



won his A.B. degree in 1901. He also studied at Howard University and took his theological course at Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J., winning his B.D. degree from that institution in 1906. This simple narrative of his education does not tell the whole story. He was under the necessity of making his way in school. This stimulated rather than discouraged him. He worked as janitor, as book agent and in a printing office in order that he might fit himself for the real work of life.

He had been converted at the early age of twelve and when twenty years of age felt called to preach the Gospel. He was licensed in 1898 and joined the Conference at Washington in 1902 under Bishop J. W. Joyce.

His first charge, La Plata, Md., where he preached one year. Having begun his ministry before completing his theological course he pressed forward till he won his degree, sometimes doing missionary work and sometimes taking a special appointment as he did at Chase, Md., to fill out pastorate made vacant by the death of the pastor. He preached at Holly Run, Md., one year. He also had charge of the work at Sparrows Point, Md., one year. He was stationed at Wheeling, W. V., three years, and went from there to Charleston, the capital of the State, where, during a successful pastorate of six years, a modern new house of worship was erected at a cost of thirty thousand dollars and the congregation greatly strengthened. Dr. Carroll went from Charleston to Clarksburg one year and while there renovated the church. Here too his work was marked by progress. In 1917 he was stationed at the Centennial M. E. Church, Baltimore, which he served for two years. He came to his present work at Asbury M. E. Church, Washington, in 1919.

The Ashby station is considered the best M. E. appointment in Washington and has been occupied by notable men.

Among the secret and benevolent orders, Dr. Carroll is a Mason, having reached the rank of thirty-second degree, and an Odd Fellow in which he is P. N. F. In politics he is a Republican. Of course, in his reading, he gives first attention to his theology. After that he has a special liking for philosophy and fiction.

He believes the best interests of the race are to be promoted "By giving the race a fair opportunity to exercise its God-

given talents—not favors, but a fair chance to develop as other races have done.”

On Sept. 16, 1905, Dr. Carroll was married to Miss Florence May Dungee of Baltimore, a daughter of Prof. John H. B. Dungee, a musician, and Margaret A. Dungee. They have two children, Julius Sylvester, Jr., and Edward Gonzalez Carroll. Mrs. Carroll was educated at Howard, graduating 1902 with the A.B. degree. She was before her marriage an accomplished teacher.

**Note**—Since the above was prepared Dr. Carroll has been promoted to the district and assigned by Bishop Robt. E. Jones to the Annapolis District Washington Conference.

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## ARTHUR LEO CURTIS

The cosmopolitan character of Washington life is one of its charms. Among the colored population, as among the white, are to be found men and women of every State in the Union. Prominent among the native Illinois men who have made a place for themselves in the Capitol City must be mentioned Dr. Arthur Leo Curtis, physician and surgeon. Dr. Curtis is a native of Chicago, where he was born on July 26, 1889. His father is Dr. Austin M. Curtis, now (1921) of Washington, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume. His mother before her marriage, was Miss Namayoka Sockume and is of Delaware Indian extraction.

Young Curtis laid the foundation of his education in Chicago. The family moving to Washington when he was in the sixth grade, he completed his public school course there. He passed from the public schools to Williston Academy, East Hampton, Mass., for his preparatory training and when ready for his medical course, matriculated at the school of medicine of Howard University and won his M.D. degree in 1912. The following year he was Interne at the Freedman's Hospital, after which he began private practice. Since 1913 he has been on the faculty of his Alma Mater, teaching diagnosis and anesthesia. Dr. Curtis is also visiting surgeon of the Freedman's Hospital. Having lived in the District since child-



hood, he has taken no active part in politics. He is a member of the Congregational Church and belongs to the Odd Fellows. He is Senior Examining Physician for the latter. He is a member of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of which he is now (1921) vice president. He is also identified with the American Medical Association and is local examiner for the Standard Life Insurance Co.

Dr. Curtis volunteered during the European war and was commissioned First Lieut. He went across and saw active service in France. He was one of six colored physicians at the field hospital at Dijon, France.

During his school days, Dr. Curtis was active in college athletics especially basket ball. His favorite reading after his professional books is history.

On June 16, 1916, Dr. Curtis was married to Miss Helen Gordon of Washington. They have an elegant home on U St. N. W. and are prominent in the social life of the city.

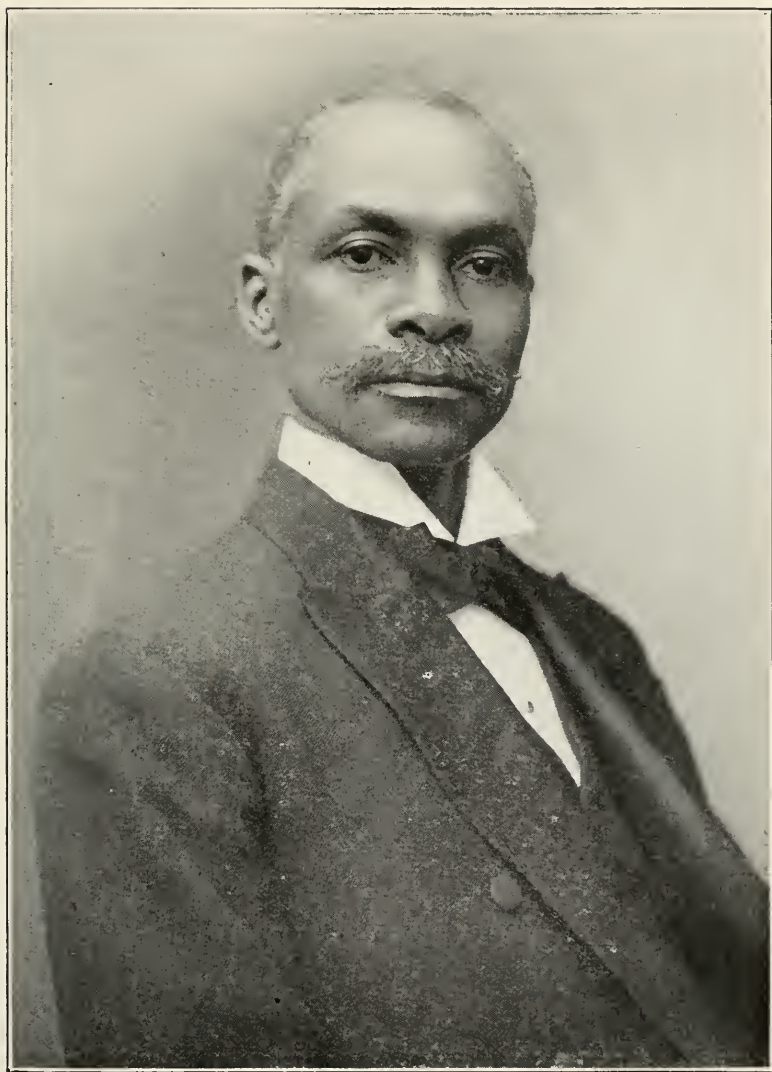
Dr. Curtis is of the opinion that the greatest single need of the race is education. He takes an interest in all matters relating to the progress of the race and is a member of the N.A.A.C.P.

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## ELIJAH HENRY ALLEN

Dr. Elijah Henry Allen, who for twenty-five years has been in the active practice of medicine at the Capital City, is a native of Alabama, having been born at Camden, Ala., in Wilcox County on January 12, 1861, only two months before the beginning of the great struggle which was to bring freedom to him and to his race in America. His father, the Rev. Henry Allen, was a pioneer Baptist preacher, and was the son of Thomas Allen. The mother of our subject was Carolyn Allen.

Coming of school age just after the war, young Allen attended the local public schools, and his progress as a student must have been unusual for at the remarkably early age of thirteen, or a little more, he began teaching himself in the local school. He was the youngest of a group of colored students who began teaching in 1874. It is needless to say



ELIJAH HENRY ALLEN

that he learned much while teaching others. He spent the school year of 1889-90 at Selma University Selma, Ala. While at Selma, he came under the influence of Dr. Purse, who aroused in him a desire to become a physician. So after one year at the University he stood the Civil Service examination and received an appointment to the Bureau of Pensions at Washington. This put the desired Medical Course within his reach. He held his clerkship for four and a half years, at the same time pursuing his studies in the School of Medicine of Howard University. He completed the course and won his M.D. degree in 1894.

In the summer of 1895, he began practice in Washington where he has since resided.

On June 25, 1902, he was married to Miss Emma V. Russell of Washington. They have six children: Henry, Lucile N., Hilda, Geo. F., Emma, and Charles Hughes Allen. Henry the oldest is now (1921) a student at Dartmouth College and the rest are being given the best educational advantages. Dr. Allen is an active member of the Metropolitan Baptist Church. Among the secret orders he is identified with the Odd Fellows. He belongs to the National Medical Association and the Medico Chirurgical Association of the District of Columbia of which he was treasurer for a number of years. He is medical Director for the American Workmen. In politics he is, of course, a Republican. After his professional books, his favorite reading consists of history and biography.

He believes the permanent progress of the race depends on the right sort of education and proper moral leadership and development. During the World War he volunteered but was not called into the service.

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## OLIVER H. WOOD

Rev. Oliver H. Wood, D.D., pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Alexandria, Va., resides at Washington, D. C.

He is a native of Virginia, having been born in Louisa County on February 28, 1873, where he still owns a home. His father was Gabriel Wood and his mother, before her marriage, was Mary Jane Hunter. As no written records could be kept by the slaves, he knows nothing of his earlier ancestors.



OLIVER H. WOOD

Mr. Wood was married in February 23, 1893, to Miss Pearl J. Coleman, a daughter of Maria G. Coleman. They have one daughter, Anna Beatrice Wood.

Young Wood attended the Louisa County public schools as a boy. At that time the schools were taught by white teachers. He worked on the farm between terms. Later he entered Howard University and for five years enjoyed the excellent opportunities afforded by that well known institution, graduating in 1908. While still a mere boy of eleven, young Wood gave his heart to God and joined the Zion Traveller Baptist church, under the pastorate of Rev. Frank Tibbs. Even from his childhood days he had felt impressed with the fact that his work in life was to be that of the Gospel ministry. He did not resist the call but went to work to prepare himself for the important task. He was licensed by the home church in 1901 (Lawrence Fry, pastor) and the following year was ordained to the full work of the Gospel ministry by a council called by the same pastor. Since then he has been in the active pastorate and has made steady progress. His first pastorate, which he served for more than eight years and where he had good growth was the Oakland Baptist church of Fairfax County, Va. He preached at Mt. Pleasant, Herndon, Va., for more than five years and improved the house of worship. He served the Mt. Calvary church in Orange County for eight years and five months. He was then called to the Union Baptist Church of Pittsburgh, Penn. He accepted the call, reconsidered the matter, recommended another brother in the person of Rev. J. E. Fields, of Washington, D. C., who was acceptable to the church, and a little later went to the pulpit of the Ebenezer Baptist Church at Alexandria, Va. That was in 1912 and the work there has prospered under his administration. Dr. Wood has baptized at least fifteen hundred persons since entering the ministry and having done considerable evangelistic work has witnessed a great many conversions in his meetings. He is vice-president of the Ministers Alliance of Mt. Bethel Baptist Association and is chairman of the membership committee of the Washington Baptist Ministers Conference. In politics he is, of course, a Republican. His secret order affiliations are with the Masons.

Reviewing conditions among his people, he believes that the next forward step is co-operation. He says, "We need to concentrate, to get together. We need more faith in our-



selves and more faith in God. The thing the world needs to regard is the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. We are all brothers and sisters, for the good book teaches that from one flesh and blood God made all mankind and it is not because a man is white, he is a man, or because he is black he is an inferior being, but it is the principle in the man, regardless of the texture of his hair or the color of the skin and so far as humanity is concerned one has no pre-eminence above the other. This should be taught by all parents of all races and all schools throughout this world."

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## MARY CURTIS

It is gratifying to note that in the onward march of events colored women are keeping step and entering upon lines of work which only a few years since were practically closed to them. One such is Miss Mary Curtis, stenographer and typist of Washington. She is a native of New York State, having been born at Ithaca on October 9, 1874. Her father, William Pernell, was a cigar maker. Her mother was Cordelia Anna Curtis, daughter of Rachel and Elzy Curtis.

As a girl Miss Curtis attended the local public high school in her home town. She made a creditable record and maintained the highest respect of her teachers and fellow students with the exception of some of the poorer whites. A few physical encounters in which she held her own soon settled that also.

Her mother was ambitious for the girl and kept constantly before her the importance of education. She was graduated from the Ithaca High School with honors in 1893. For some time she had represented the Colored American at Ithaca as both agent and correspondent. In 1893 she moved with her mother and brother to Washington where she has since resided. After coming to Washington she attended the Public Business Night School. She went to Howard in 1901, graduating in 1905 and has from that institution the degree of Bachelor of Pedagogy. While pursuing her course at Howard she served as secretary to the Dean of the Teachers College and was the only member of her class (1895) who went on with





MARY CURTIS

the profession of stenographer and typist. She soon came to realize the importance of a commission as Notary Public and in March, 1909, was commissioned by Pres. Roosevelt, reappointed in 1914 by Pres. Wilson and again in 1919. Miss Curtis has a large clientele among the most prominent men of the race in the city and has frequently reported meetings and speeches of importance. Miss Curtis is a member of the A. M. E. Church.

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## CLAUDE P. CARMICHAEL

One of the most notable achievements of the race in the last quarter of century has been the number and character of the men entering those professions which require extended preparation and exact knowledge. One of these is the profession of medicine. It is gratifying to note that so many of the young men entering this profession in recent years have met with a measure of success which would have been considered unusual twenty-five years ago. One of these is Dr. Claude Peter Carmichael of Washington City. He is a native of the Lone Star State, having been born at Edna in Jackson County, Texas, on February 20, 1892. His parents, both of whom still survive (1921) are John W. and Mary Jane Carmichael. Both parents were fortunate in that they had the advantages of an education so that the son had the opportunities which naturally come with a home of intelligence and culture. Dr. Carmichael's paternal grand parents were Dougie and Celia Carmichael, and the maternal grandparents Jimmy and Diana Thomas.

Growing up in Texas, young Carmichael attended the local public and high schools from which he passed to the State Normal at Prairie View, Texas. When ready for his medical course, he matriculated at Howard University where he spent two years. He completed his course at the University of Vermont, graduating with the M.D. degree in 1914. While in school he was active in college athletics, especially football.

He began the active practice at Washington early in 1916, and in five years has built a practice of which a much older man need not be ashamed. During the war he was in the

service for a short while in 1917 and again from July, 1918, to January, 1919. During the latter period he was stationed at Camp Alexander, Newport News, Va.

In politics Dr. Carmichael is independent, in religion a Unitarian. Among the secret orders he is identified with the Pythians. He is medical examiner for the Pythians and for the I. B. P. O. E. of W. He holds membership in the Medico-Chirurgical Society of the District of Columbia and the National Medical association.

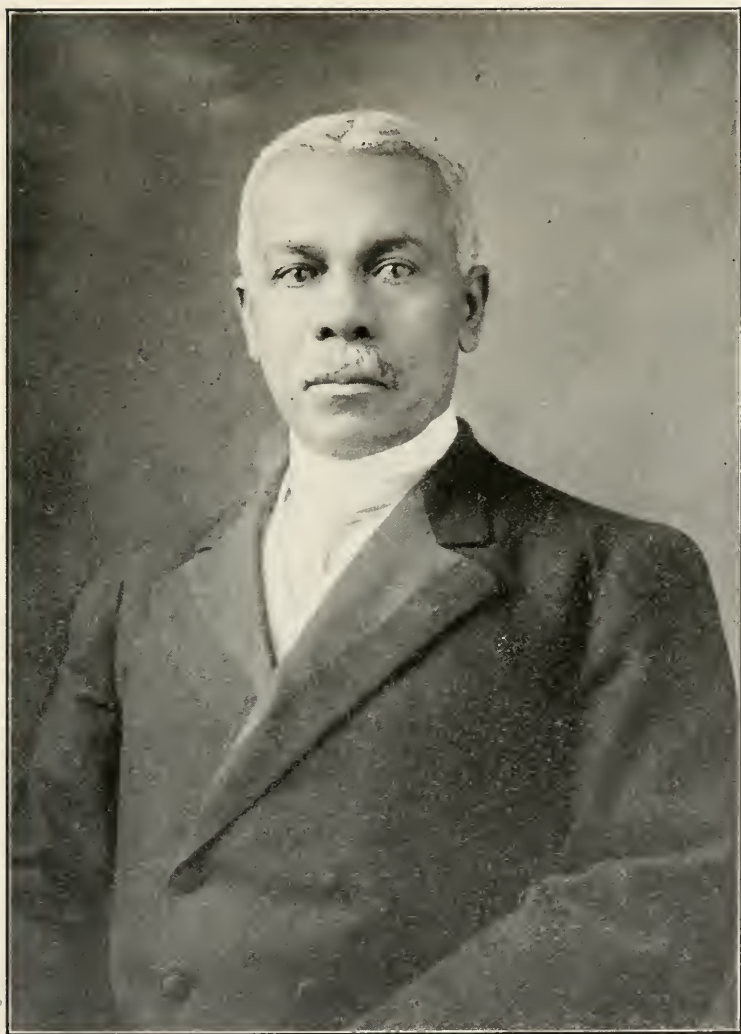
On September 29, 1920, Dr. Carmichael was married to Miss Virginia Edwards, an accomplished young woman of Williamsport, Pa. Dr. Carmichael has had opportunity to study conditions in widely separated parts of the country and is of the opinion that the thing most needed today by the race is better training along all lines—better trained leaders, religious and intellectual.

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## HOLLAND POWELL

It is a far cry from the farm and the oyster boat of slavery days in the Old Dominion to an influential pastorate in the Capitol City of the Nation. Yet Rev. Holland Powell, A.B., D.D., pastor of the Liberty Baptist Church at Washington, has covered that distance in his life time and has filled the years with splendid service. He is a native of Middlesex County, Va., where he was born on March 31, 1854. It will be observed that he was a boy eleven years of age when the war closed and brought freedom and opportunity to him and his people.

If the religious experience of Dr. Powell could be told in detail it would make a fine story. His parents, William and Martha Powell, were Christians, so he had the advantage of being brought up in a home of piety and godliness. He was converted at the early age of thirteen, and joined the First Baptist Church of Middlesex which his father had built. But even before his conversion, he had felt called to preach the Gospel. In fact he hardly recalls the time when he did not feel that preaching was to be his work in life. As a small boy, he would take the open oyster shells for Bible and hymn books and proceed to preach to the other children. Of course



HOLLAND POWELL

he was denied the opportunity of any education till after the war. Even then the way was not easy. He was now a youth and the only school in reach was the three months public school. He made the best of this, however, and spent the rest of his time on the farm or oystering. In 1873, he was licensed by the home church and later in the same year ordained to the full work of the ministry.

He made his way to Washington and entered Wayland Seminary, completing the course there with the A.B. degree in 1879. In this day of high wages it is not easy to realize what privations the young man of that day had to undergo, who had to make his own way at college. His parents would send him produce which he would sell, his mother being especially ambitious for her preacher boy. He did his own washing and ironing and was at least always able to appear neat.

His first regular pastorate was the Grove Baptist Church in Norfolk county which he served for four years. While on this work he built a new house of worship and paid for it. At the end of four years, he was called to do some field work for the Foreign Mission Board. This work held him for only a short while, when he was recalled to his former pastorate for a term of three years. He resigned that work to accept a call from the Fifth Baptist Church of Richmond where he preached for six years. He found this work burdened with a debt of sixteen thousand five hundred dollars and reduced it to less than three thousand at a time when money was scarce and it was hard to pay debts. He had become recognized, however, as a man of constructive ability and was called to the pastorate of the Second Baptist Church of Detroit, Mich. He served that church for five years and doubled the membership. From Detroit he went to Toronto, Canada, as pastor of Queen St. Baptist Church. The church had sold their property and was at that time without a place of worship. Dr. Powell remained to see the new house well under way when he accepted a call to the Second Baptist Church at Springfield, Ohio, where he preached thirteen months till the illness of Mrs. Powell necessitated his return South.

At that time the work of the Virginia Seminary and College at Lynchburg required the services of a trained man in whom the people of the State had confidence, so Dr. Powell was recalled to his native State and served that institution one



year as Educational Secretary in the field. The pulpit of the Bethany Baptist Church of New York being vacant he was called from Virginia to that field where he preached with great success for six and a half years. An indebtedness of ten thousand dollars was canceled, a new house built at a cost of fifteen thousand and the whole work reorganized and put on a prosperous basis. Bethany Church reached its greatest period of prosperity under the efficient ministry of Dr. Powell. In 1914 he resigned that work to accept a call to the pulpit of the Liberty Baptist Church of Washington. When it is stated that during the seven years he has been at Liberty the membership has grown from thirty-five to five hundred, it will be seen that Dr. Powell still brings to bear on his work as pastor all the enthusiasm and energy of a man of forty. He is a Trustee of the Seminary and College at Lynchburg and a member of the Executive Board of the New England Baptist Convention. He is also identified with the Virginia, the National, and the Lott Carey Baptist Conventions.

On June 7, 1874, Dr. Powell was married to Miss Emma C. Chinn of Alexandria, Va.

In politics he is a Republican and is a member of the Order of Moses and the Ideal Society. Readers will not be surprised to learn that his favorite book is the Bible.

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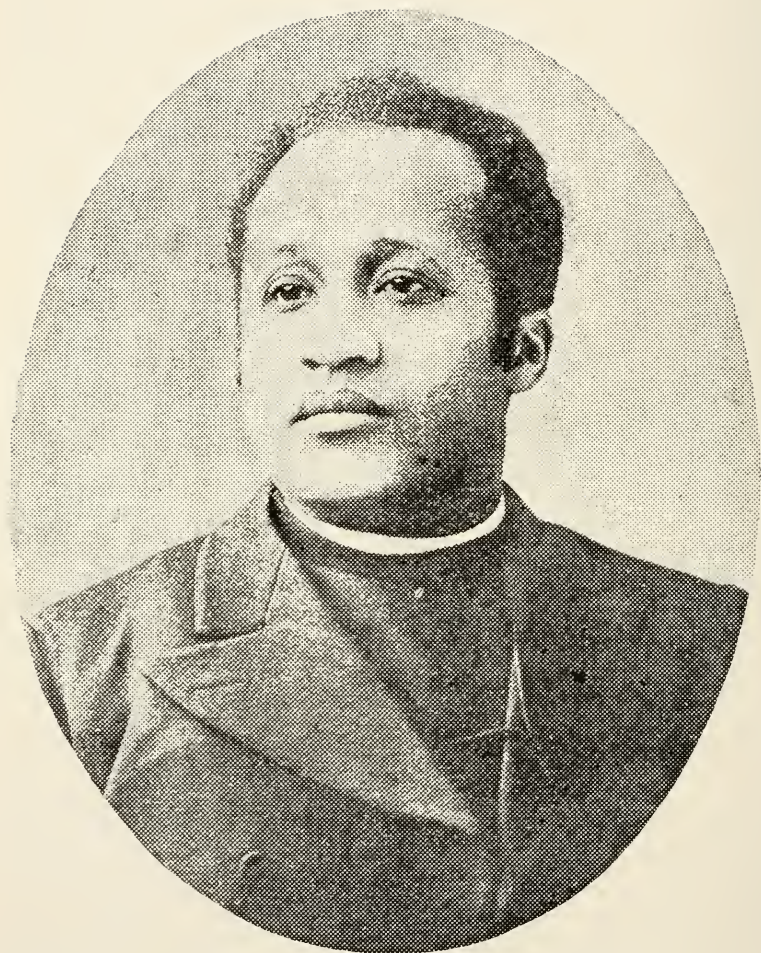
## SIMON P. W. DREW

A notable fact in the religious life of North Carolina is the predominance of the Baptist denomination in both races. As a result, the Baptist pulpit of many other states, in fact of the whole country, has been greatly enriched by the contribution of men received from the Old North State.

One of these, who is working both as a pastor at the National Capitol and as an evangelist of unusual power is Rev. Simon Peter William Drew, M.A., Ph.D., D.D., pastor of the Cosmopolitan Baptist Church of Washington.

Dr. Drew is a native of Margarettsville, Northampton County, N. C., where he was born on August 6, 1870. His father Frank Drew was the son of Mason Drew. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Miss Isabella Hargroves. She is a





SIMON PETER WILLIAM DREW

daughter of Rev. Simon Peter Hargroves, who leaving North Carolina went to Ohio where he became active in the abolition movement. Mrs. Drew still survives (1921).

Growing up on the farm young Drew divided his time between manual labor on the farm and the local public school where he laid the foundation of his education. He did something else during those days of rather strenuous outdoor activity. He developed a vigorous, robust manhood physically, which has stood remarkably well the strain of the years. Dr. Drew has never been sick a day and now at fifty can carry through the work of a day or a week or a whole campaign with the vigor and enthusiasm of a man of thirty.

His call to the ministry antedates his conversion. In fact, as far back as his memory goes, he felt that whatever else others might do his work in life must be that of the Gospel ministry. When he was eleven years of age he gave his heart to God and joined the Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Margaretsville, N. C. Fortunately for him his home training was Christian. Realizing the need of better equipment than that offered by the local schools, he went to New York to work and study. From that time forth he made his own way. He did both his literary and theological work at the New York Training College and won his M.A. degree in 1896. He had identified himself with the Baptist work on going to New York and was licensed to preach on July 4, 1894. On October 29, 1896 he was ordained to the full work of the ministry.

It was about this time on November 23, 1898, that he was married to Miss Blanche Thomas, a teacher in the public school of Richmond, Va.

In 1894, he began the active work of the ministry in eastern New York where he organized the St. Stephens Baptist Church. A house of worship was erected and a good working congregation built up. He was successful from the beginning and continued to serve that church till 1902.

Early in his ministry he manifested unusual powers as an evangelist, and while he has done good work as a pastor, it is as an evangelist that he is most widely known. He reports many thousands of persons as having made profession in his meetings. In 1921, in a single meeting of two months at Columbus, Ohio, three thousand, five hundred made profession. He never preaches to empty pews for even as it was said of the Master "the common people hear him gladly."

From St. Stephens in New York, Dr. Drew went to St. Paul Baptist Church, Boston, which he served for two years. In 1904, he accepted the call of the Cosmopolitan Baptist Church of Washington, where he has since resided. The congregation has had good growth under his ministry and a house of worship has been bought.

In politics Dr. Drew is a Republican and has done considerable campaigning for the party. While not seeking office for himself he has kept in close touch with political life and leadership in order to counsel his people. Has known personally presidents McKinley, Roosevelt, Taft and Harding and leading congressmen. He is not now active in the work of the secret orders.

Dr. Drew is President of the National Evangelistic Ministers Alliance of America and President of the White Cross Free Labor Bureau of America. Through the latter he was able to render his people much valuable assistance, especially during the war.

Not only is Dr. Drew a fluent and eloquent speaker, he is also a forceful writer, especially on race questions. He wrote "The Negro in America," and other booklets which have had a wide reading.

Dr. Drew has had a rare opportunity to study racial conditions in various parts of the country and is of the opinion that if the white ministers would speak out clearly and touch the lay conscience, more would be accomplished than is possible by antagonism.

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## CHARLES CLIFFORD FRY

Dr. Charles Clifford Fry, one of the leading dentists of his race in Washington City is a native of Pennsylvania, having been born at Reading on June 5, 1871. His parents were George L. and Sallie A. (Turner) Fry. The father passed away some years ago, but the mother still survives (1921). George Fry was the son of Hiram and Bettie Fry. Dr. Fry's maternal grandmother was Mary Turner.

Young Fry laid the foundation of his education in the public schools of Reading. Later the family moved to Bethlehem, and he continued the grade there and attended high school at





CHARLES CLIFFORD FRY

Westchester. When ready for his course in dentistry, he matriculated at Howard University, where he won his D.D.S. degree in 1899. By his own energy and application he worked his way through the course. His time was too fully occupied for much attention to athletics. After his graduation he at once began the practice and for more than twenty years has been recognized as one of the leading dentists of his race in the city. He maintains attractive dental parlors at his residence on Fifteenth street, N. W. He belongs to the Robt. T. Freeman Dental Society, of the District of Columbia which he has served as president. He also belongs to the Interstate Dental association, and the National Medical Association. He is now (1921) Dental Inspector of the Colored Schools of the District.

He retains his Pennsylvania Citizenship and in politics is a Republican. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church in which he is a trustee. He takes an active part in all movements which are striving to better conditions of the race. Among other things he belongs to the Y. M. Protective League, the Bannaker Relief Association and the Crispus Attucks Relief Association. He is a stock holder in the Mu-So-Lit Club, and a member of the Sphinx Club.

On November 30, 1905, Dr. Fry was married to Miss Alice D. Christmas of Fayetteville, N. C. They have two children, Alice and Elizabeth Fry. Dr. Fry's work, especially with the young, has given him an unusual opportunity to study the conditions and the tendencies of the times. He sees as the first great need of the race a spirit of co-operation. After that he would emphasize education and the development of the commercial and industrial life of the race in order that there may be those who can function in every department of the life of the race.

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## JAMES H. RANDOLPH

Tidewater Virginia has contributed many strong men to the ministry of both races and of all denominations. Among the colored ministers of the Capitol City, who come from that section of the Old Dominion must be mentioned Rev. James Harvey Randolph, B.D., D.D., pastor of the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church. Dr. Randolph is a native of King and Queen County, where he was born on December 9, 1869. His father,



JAMES HARVEY RANDOLPH



William Randolph, was also a Baptist preacher and his mother, before her marriage, was Miss Flora Robinson.

Young Randolph laid the foundation of his education in the local schools and at West Point, Va. He passed from there to the Richmond Theological Seminary, now Virginia Union University. He was at that institution for eight years and on completion of his literary course, took the theological course leading to the B.D. degree. Just as he was turning into manhood at about the age of nineteen he experienced the new birth and joined the Mt. Nebo Baptist Church. With his conversion came the realization that his work in life must be that of preaching the gospel. He did not procrastinate but at once set about preparing for that important work in life. He was licensed the following year and was ordained to the full work of the ministry by the home church on April 26, 1896. Such were the conditions by which he was surrounded that he found it necessary to make his own way in school. This did not discourage him, but rather spurred him on to greater effort as he worked on the farm, in the store or as a waiter. All these things were used as a means to the one important end he had in view. He lost his mother when he was a mere boy, but was held firmly to right living and thinking by another, Mrs. Mary Burnett, who came into his life and by keeping the memory of his lost mother fresh tided him over those treacherous years of his teens.

Dr. Randolph's first pastorate was Third Union Baptist Church of King William County, Va., which he served for three years. While there the house of worship was remodeled. He went from there to Mt. Hermon at Portsmouth, resigning that work after one year to accept the pastorate of the First Baptist Church of Berkley. Here he had a successful pastorate of four years during which he built a parsonage and beautified the church. It was while on this work that he built and served the First Baptist Church at South Hill, which has since grown into a good congregation engaging a pastor for full time. He was then called back to Mt. Hermon and began a successful pastorate of seven years. The church debt was wiped out and every department of the work reorganized and put on a prosperous basis. In 1910 he was called to Washington City to take charge of the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church which he has served continuously since. His work here has been marked by good growth in membership and in power, and funds amounting to more than thirty thousand dollars have

been accumulated for a new house of worship. Dr. Randolph is a man of one book and of one interest. That book is the Bible and that interest the Gospel ministry. Other things are incidental. He is not active in politics nor in the work of the secret orders. He is Corresponding Secretary of the District Baptist Convention and is Auditor and a member of the Executive Board of the Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Baptist Convention. He is also Chairman of the Executive Board of the National Race Congress and is a member of the N. A. A. C. P. He is on the Board of Trustees of the Smallwood-Corey Institute at Claremont, Va.

On June 20, 1900, Dr. Randolph was married to Miss Alberta Brooks Cosby, of Danville. She was educated at Hartshorn. Dr. Randolph believes that in the last analysis the progress and security of the race depend on the fundamental things of religion and education. In recognition of his work, and attainments his Alma Mater conferred on him the D.D. degree.

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## JOHN HAYDEN JOHNSON

Right amongst his friends and school mates, in the midst of those who understand and know his character and ability best, Dr. John Hayden Johnson, of Washington, has worked out a measure of success in the medical profession of which a much older man might well be proud. He is a native of Washington, having been born in the Capital City on February 17, 1875. His father, the late Rev. Robert Johnson, was a well-known Baptist minister in Washington for a generation. He built the Metropolitan Baptist Church which he served as pastor for 33 years. Dr. Johnson's mother, before her marriage, was Miss Martha Hayden.

Dr. Johnson grew up in Washington and laid the foundation of his education in the local public and high schools. After that he did his preparatory work at Howard University, which was followed by special courses and the regular medical course at the same institution. He won his M.D. degree at Howard in 1900 and began practice the same year. He was interne at the Freedman's Hospital and was out-door clinician for seven years. Entering upon the practice in 1900, he was successful from the beginning and has built up an extensive prac-



JOHN HAYDEN JOHNSON

tice which occupies his whole time. He has given special attention to the diseases of children.

On June 17, 1903, Dr. Johnson was married to Miss Minnie L. Crutchfield, the accomplished daughter of Calvin C. and Susie M. Crutchfield of Washington. She was educated in Washington. Dr. and Mrs. Johnson have two children; Maurice Eugene and Hayden Crutchfield Johnson. Dr. Johnson has been peculiarly happy in his domestic relations and says that he has found his highest inspiration in his loving parents and his devoted wife and children.

In politics he is a Republican, and finds time as a citizen to take an active part in those things which make for the progress and development of the race. He was appointed a member of the Washington School Board in 1916 and reappointed in 1919. Dr. Johnson has been signally honored by the members of his profession. He was for a number of years Treasurer of the Medico Chirurgical Society and later President of the same organization. At this time (1921) he holds membership in the National Medical Association, the Physicians Reading Club, also a member of Association of Former Internes of Freedman's Hospital, and is Medical Examiner for the Odd Fellows and Pythians. There is scarcely a racial organization of general importance in the city with which he is not identified. He belongs to the N. A. A. C. P., the Masons and the Odd Fellows. He holds membership in the Mu-So-Lit Club, the Sphinx Club, and the Bachelor-Benedict Club. During the war he was active in all the drives and campaigns. Dr. Johnson is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Social Hygiene Society of Washington. His reading is largely along the line of his professional work. He resides and maintains attractive offices at 1842 Vermont Avenue.

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## AARON A. RUSSELL

Dr. Aaron Augustine Russell, President of the Robert T. Freeman Dental Society, the only organization of colored dentists in the Capitol City is a native of Baltimore, though he has resided in Washington from infancy. He was born in Baltimore on November 1, 1867. His father Aaron Russell was the son of Aaron and Anna Russell. Dr. Russell's mother, before her marriage, was Miss Catherine Jacobs.

Growing up in Washington, young Russell enjoyed the excellent public and high schools of the Capitol City, after which he took a commercial course at Spencerian Business College. Following his business course he was in the Government service at the printing office for a number of years.

On July 21, 1892, Dr. Russell was married to Miss Eleanor West, of Washington. They have an interesting family of five children. The names of those living are Hilda, Aaron, Inez, Merlin and Dolores Russell.

Recognizing the promising field for the colored dentist in Washington, Dr. Russell entered the School of Dentistry at Howard University, pursuing the course while still holding his position at the printing office. He won his D.D.S. degree in 1903 and at once began the practice. He was successful from the beginning and soon came to be recognized as one of the leaders of the profession in Washington. As an evidence of the esteem in which he is held by the profession he was elected president of the local dental society in 1919.

In politics Dr. Russell is a Republican. He is a member of the Catholic Church. After his professional reading he finds his leisure fully occupied by the daily news and the current magazines.

Dr. Russell has for years been an intelligent observer of conditions among his people and believes that ignorance and poverty are the greatest bars to progress. Hence he is of the opinion that the things most needed by the race today are education and wealth and is an ardent advocate of such policies local and national as will give his people an equal opportunity in acquiring both education and wealth. He was over age for the service during the war but did a great deal of dental work for the enlisted men without charge to them or to the Government.

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## FRANK WILLIAM DIXON

Rev. Frank William Dixon, B.D., pastor of the Beulah Baptist Church, is a native of North Carolina, having been born in the historic old University town of Chapel Hill on Sept. 19, 1858. He belongs to that class known as self-made men. His father, David Williams was under the cruel exegencies of slavery, sold from his family when our subject was a mere





FRANK WILLIAM DIXON



infant. Later his mother married again and the boy came to be known by the name of his step-father Dixon. His mother before her marriage was Ellen Strayhorn. She was a daughter of Betsy Strayhorn. Speaking of his education, he says, "My step father being poor and unable to support the family, I had to work a large part of the time to help him keep the wolf from the door, as I was the oldest of a large family of children. The schools in those days were poorly equipped, books were scarce and the school terms were short. The Quakers, however, had exclusive control of my training, and I spent about ten years under this tutorship at Hillsboro, N. C." He secured employment in tobacco factories at Greensboro, also Durham and Winston-Salem, but in 1881 left the Old North State to take charge as Principal of the Town public school at Fulton, Ark. From that time forward he became active in all matters pertaining to the educational and political life of his people and was soon a recognized leader among them. He says, "In two years, after becoming Principal, I was nominated by the Republicans of Hempstead county as a representative to the Arkansas Legislature. Of course, I was beaten. Two years thereafter the Republicans and the Union Labor forces united, and again I received the unanimous support of my party and the Union Labor Party for the office of Tax Assessor for Hempstead county. I ran and was elected and served the term. At the same time I was serving as Town Recorder of Fulton, Ark. I was Post Master of Fulton from 1890 to 1893. Soon after this I returned to my old home at Hillsboro, N. C., and engaged in teaching school in Durham county, where years before I had been a tobacco roller. In 1896 during the McKinley-Bryan campaign, Hon. Powell Clayton, who knew of my party work in Arkansas, wrote the Republican authorities in North Carolina and I was asked to take the stump, which I did and spoke wherever assigned by the committee." After the election of President McKinley, Mr. Dixon moved to Washington, where he has since resided. He secured employment and is now attached to the Adjutant General's Office.

Rev. Mr. Dixon was not converted till after he had reached mature manhood. He was at that time residing in Arkansas. He joined the local Baptist Church and later felt called to preach the Gospel. He was not licensed, however, till after he moved to Washington. He was ordained to the full work of the ministry by the Berean Baptist church in 1910. Before

this he had been active in church work and was frequently called to fill appointments as preacher, though as yet he had accepted no regular pastorate. He took his theological course at Howard University where he was graduated as valedictorian of his class in 1909.

In 1916, Rev. Mr. Dixon accepted the call of the Beulah Baptist Church of Deanwood Heights, D. C. The church has grown and prospered under his ministry. A modern new house of worship has been erected and every department of the work has been well organized.

On December 7, 1888, Mr. Dixon was married to Miss Joanna R. Whitted, of North Carolina, a daughter of Wilson and Cynthia Whitted. Mrs. Dixon was educated at Shaw University and was before her marriage an accomplished teacher. They have had three children: Arnold W., Gevena D. Craig, and Cynthia E. Dixon. The youngest was called home to her eternal rest in year 1912.

Looking back over the days of his boyhood, Mr. Dixon counts the influence of his home life and the Godly teachers he had at Hillsboro as the most potent influences in his life. His favorite book is the Bible. After that he has found great help in Pilgrim's Progress and in Emerson's works, "Thoughts That Inspire," by Knox, also "Ready Money," "Principles and Practice of Morality," Robinson, "The Pathway of Life," by Rev. T. Dewitt Talmadge, "The Bible Looking-glass."

He is a capable business man and is identified with the North State Mutual Association and The Whitelaw Apartment Association. He is a member of the N. A. A. C. P. and belongs to the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention. Such in brief in the inspiring story of the N. C. boy born in slavery, who by his energy and capacity has lifted himself to a place of large usefulness.

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# THE NATIONAL BENEFIT LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Romance of Its Struggles and Triumphs

## INCORPORATION

Late in the year 1898, unheralded, there was incorporated at Washington, D. C., under laws enacted by Congress, the National Benefit Association, the object of which was to insure its policy-holders for benefits in cases of sickness, accident and death. But a babe itself, it sought to protect adults and their homes. However, from the beginning the Association was beset by many tempters to make excursions into other fields of endeavor. But their suggestion of combining extraneous ideas with that of insurance proved upon careful analysis to be fallacious and delusive and attended with more risk than advantages. Insurance is a business large enough to engage the entire time, attention and faculties of any set of men, however capable they may be.

## FUNCTION

And it furnishes one thing it alone can supply, and in that no other institution can possibly compete. We refer to the constant protection afforded the insured himself, as well as his dependent family. To keep this persistently and faithfully in view and practice ceaseless care and rigid economy of management so as to merit the stamp of approval of its policy-holders and commend itself to all intending applicants who are prudent and unselfish, is conceived to be the highest function of an insurance company. The strongest evidence that the methods of management adopted and practiced by the National Benefit Association are sound and safe, is furnished by the fact it has met with unprecedented success, financially and numerically, secured the official favor of the Insurance Departments of several States throughout a long series of years; perfected a most efficient organization of agents and built up a reputation as a live, progressive Company, standing for fair and honest treatment, which has rendered it invaluable to all classes.



Top, left to right: Dr. W. A. Warfield, Med. Director and Vice-President; R. H. Rutherford, President and Treasurer; S. W. Rutherford, Sec'y. & Gen. Mgr.

## BIRTH

But do not infer that the pathway of the National Benefit Association has been strewn with beds of roses. During the throes of the Spanish-American War, for which it paid a tax for a number of years, and with a capital of \$5.00, a rented \$5.00 per month office room with one table and a few chairs, all of which furniture was hardly worth \$11.00, and with part of its officers as the only agents, clerks and janitor; but with a firm faith in the unseen, the frail and well-nigh invisible craft of the National Benefit Association set sail over the mighty and treacherous seas of adversity on a mission of rescue and protection. At its birth there was no criterion as to the disability and death rate among Negroes. There was no compass by which to steer its uncharted course. You can therefore, see that it was commenced in a darkness of uncertainty.

## ORGANIZATION

Nevertheless, the work was pushed with the utmost vigor. The task of educating men and women to the difficulties and intricates of the field work developed upon the Secretary. His was the task of laying the foundation; of securing co-workers; of training them in the best methods of house-to-house canvassing and collecting; perfecting them in the intricate matter of bookkeeping, accounts and numerous forms inherent to a business of the greatest detail. And when we consider that the average industrial premium is 10 cents, and it takes 100 of them to make 10 dollars, you get some idea of the scope, enormity and multiplicity of details. It also fell to his lot to develop in some the powers of supervision and leadership. Many of its first agents are proud of the fact that they are yet in active service with the Company; and it is equally as proud. They have not only learned themselves, but have taught to others, the difference between independence and dependence; between weakness and strength, by placing National Benefit Life Insurance (as subsequently renamed) policies in 400,000 homes. And the National Benefit Life Insurance Company policy—wise and understanding—is like honesty—the best policy. The Company issues three forms of such industrial policies: Sick and Accident, Straight Life, and Endowment. Persons are insurable from one to sixty years.



## THE TEST: GREAT OBSTACLES OVERCOME

Up to this time the National Benefit Association was not required to make sworn annual reports to anyone; but the fact that in 1902 there was established at Washington an Insurance Department, to which it was compelled to make reports before securing license to do business, gave the officers no little concern. They had no knowledge, whatever, of insurance departmental rules and regulations. And their lot was made all the more unenviable by the then rigid and exacting Superintendent of Insurance.

In 1904, the National Benefit Association bought the present site of its five-story brick Office Building, notwithstanding the fact that its assets had been greatly impaired by the temporary loss of \$5,000 deposited in a colored bank which formerly bargained to buy the property and to whom the Company had paid rent. In the minds of many there was a hazy, but unfounded idea that the bank and Insurance Company, being located in the same building, were connected by indissoluble ties; that the failure of either meant the ultimate extinguishment of the life of the other. Nothing could stay the mad stampede of over 1,000 policy-holders to withdraw their support. This dual loss of much money and many members, for which the Company was in no wise responsible, was a staggering blow to the fair name of the National Benefit Association. But, undaunted, the institution regained its feet and commenced its onward march anew. The fact that the geography of its operations included the State of New Jersey, where very little was known of the bank failure, and the further fact that the far-seeing officers and directors had also made other banks depositories of nest eggs, saved the National Benefit Association from an untimely and undeserved doom. But to magnify this severe ordeal, weakened though it was, its rivals unhesitatingly attacked it from every quarter. It is useless to state that with this handicap, it took lots of time and systematic efforts to re-establish itself in the confidence and good graces of its local constituency. And when it made its final payment of \$10,079.10 on its property, both black and white in Washington were stunned. During the two panics it has weathered, institutions regarded as impregnable against financial loss crumbled to pieces in a day and values of every description fell to quotations which would have been deemed incredible. The effect of these financial crises upon the fate



of the National Benefit Association was additional tests of careful management and conservative methods.

### BANNER OF ACHIEVEMENTS

In the very midst of the panics the National Benefit Life Insurance Company paid and earned cash dividends. The record shows that for every year of its existence the institution paid dividends—never less than 6 per cent. Still its business and stability continued to increase and expand until its wings now cover nine states and shield 400,000 hearth-stones. So that it early became necessary to remodel and enlarge its quarters at a cost of \$12,000.00. Today it takes practically all of this magnificent elevated Home Office building, covering a floor space of several thousand square feet to transact its great volume of business. The efficient services of 76 business-like departmental chiefs and clerks are required. The Departments are as follows: Executive, Medical, Bookkeeping, Correspondence with its Bureau of Claims, Policy, Supply, Record, City and Advance and Arrears. About 600 members of the race are giving full or partial time to the advancement of the interest of this cause. Approximately \$500,000.00 has been paid in benefits, while there is \$10,000,000.00 insurance in force. It was the first colored company to put up as much as \$50,000.00 with any State Insurance Department as a guarantee and pledge to the insured and the State of the fulfillment of its policy contracts. Its present deposit of guaranteed protection is over \$200,000.00. In the cities of Baltimore, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Chester, Pa., and Camden, N. J., it owns beautiful modern buildings, used in part for office purposes and in part for flats. With resources approximating three-quarters of a million dollars most of which is invested in the best railroad, government, state, municipal and public service corporation bonds, it enjoys the distinction of being one of the strongest and oldest Negro Financial Institutions extant; a mighty fortress of security, as well as one of the largest owners of marketable bonds.

This veritable business college, teaching the system and principles of business, offers a valuable lesson in thrift. In the Industrial Department, it exacts a small weekly or monthly sum for the day when its policy-holders will be unable to ward off sickness, accident or death. For those better circumstances, the Ordinary Department has recently been established to meet their greater demands. The total cost of a policy doesn't

amount to much, but the habit is invaluable. It points the way to independence. The foregoing are facts, not theories.

### ITS FUTURE

Its hope of becoming an Old Line Legal Reserve Company, with a paid-up capital of \$100,000 was happily materialized in 1919. It operates in some states that no other colored company has yet succeeded in entering. On more than one occasion it has successfully met competition of the largest companies; it issues a variety of Industrial and Ordinary policies calculated to meet practically every need to which humanity is heir and to materially assist in smoothing life's pathway in innumerable ways. It is the only company of its kind operating under laws enacted by U. S. Congress for the D. C. With its present plant and plans, everything seems right for it to become a veritable insurance gate of the race. For whatever may eventually bring one within its folds, The National Benefit Life Insurance Company will not disappoint them. This is the basis upon which the business is sought. It is realized that the Company has come to stay longer than any of them. It is an educating factor of the highest value in business and is destined to wax mightier and mightier in the unfolding of time with the increase of its membership and assets. And all who become in any way associated with it will feel proud of a historic connection. It stands high in achievement and full of promise for the future. Its faith in the future is memorialized on the solid rock of accomplished facts. The dawn of its, ever-lasting destiny is illuminated by the lamps of performance, intelligence, honesty and justice.

### THE TRINITY BEHIND THE NATIONAL

The President and Treasurer, R. H. Rutherford, has worked his way up through the ranks of insurance men to the position he now holds. He is a young man of vigorous and concentrated efforts, untiring zeal and unshaken confidence in the Greater National Benefit. His works are recorded in bold relief on the pages of the institution. Many forward-looking steps have been taken in the interest of the Company during his brief incumbency.

The progressive Vice-President and Medical Director is Dr. W. A. Warfield, for many years successful surgeon-in-chief of Freedman's Hospital, Washington, D. C. As an adminis-

trator, he ranks second to none and is abreast of all modern methods of the laboratory, which is so indispensable to institution of the magnitude and character of the National Benefit and Freedman's.

The genial and virile Secretary and Manager, who has been elected to the office 22 consecutive times is S. W. Rutherford, Esq., a native of Georgia. He was there at the founding of the institution and he shines out pre-eminently through its entire existence thus far as its foremost exponent and first advocate. To a very large degree, the Company is the length of his living shadow. Owing to his great work he is popularly known as "The first apostle of Negro business." His has been a wonderfully varied experience and he stands out as a mighty driving force when he champions any cause.

Associated and heartily co-operating with these officers in their successful management is a harmonious Board of Directors and a loyal field and office force, without whose appreciative services the Executives could do nothing.

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## JAMES LUTHER PINN

Among the younger men of the race in the Baptist pastorate of Washington, must be mentioned Rev. James Luther Pinn, A.B., B.D., D.D., pastor of the West Washington Baptist Church. He is a native of the Capitol City, having been born in Washington on May 12, 1877. His parents were James and Lucy Jane (Lucas) Pinn.

As a boy, young Pinn laid the foundation of his education in the public and high schools of Washington, completing his course at the latter in 1894. He completed the Normal Course at Washington Normal School in 1896. During the school year 1896-97 he was the Assistant Principal of the Manassas Industrial School of Manassas, Va. He graduated from Howard University in 1902. He took special work in Central University, Indiana and Syracuse University.

Mr. Pinn was converted as a youth of seventeen and joined the Nineteenth street Baptist Church. Early in life he developed a desire and a determination to serve humanity in the largest possible way. As he thought about the matter in relation to his work in life, it was borne in on him that this



JAMES LUTHER PINN

for him meant the ministry. His first care was to fit himself adequately for the great work of preaching the Gospel. As a result he has been successful from the beginning. He was ordained to the full work of the ministry February 4, 1901. Even before that he had been called to the St. Phillip's Baptist Church of Washington which he served from 1900-02. He resigned that work to accept the call of the Bethany Baptist Church of Syracuse, N. Y., which he served with marked success for fourteen years, from 1902-16. The membership was more than doubled during his pastorate and every department of the work well organized. The manner in which he did his work attracted the attention of the denominational leaders and he was chosen Secretary of the Onondaga County Baptist Association. It may be stated that this body was composed of twenty-two churches, one colored and twenty-one white. Dr. Pinn was the pastor of the only colored church. He held the position of Secretary for eight years till called to another field. At the 1916 session of the association the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

The Onondaga Baptist Association, in annual session, hereby records its appreciation of the character, worth, and work of our beloved and fellow-worker, the Reverend James L. Pinn, who for eight successive years has served us as clerk with marked efficiency and courtesy.

In the fourteen years of his fruitful pastorate of the Bethany Church, Mr. Pinn has commended himself to all who have known him in both church and city as a Christian man of high ideals, fine spirit, and of untiring devotion, not only to the welfare of the Bethany Baptist Church and this Association, but also the promotion of every cause which makes for the uplift of society and the increase of righteousness in our city and the world.

We much regret that our brother is to leave us, yet recognizing his ability and fitness for larger things, we fraternally commend him to the confidence and love of those whom he is to serve in the broader field, and to all the brethren of the Baptist Ministry of the city of Washington. In leaving us we assure our brother that he and Mrs. Pinn have our prayers for the Master's richest blessings upon them and their labors in the Kingdom.

In 1916, Dr. Pinn was called to the First Baptist Church of West Washington, D. C. Since returning to his native city he has become identified with his Alma Mater, Howard Univer-



sity, where he has the Chair of Bible History and Philosophy in the School of Religion. This well-known institution conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1922.

On June 16, 1897, Dr. Pinn was married to Miss Celia Virginia Gaskins of Warrenton, Va. They have two children: James Russell Calvin and Luther Conrad Pinn.

Dr. Pinn is a Republican in politics and among the secret and benevolent orders is identified with the Masons, Pythians, Odd Fellows and the Order of Moses. His favorite reading, next after the Bible, consists of History and Philosophy.

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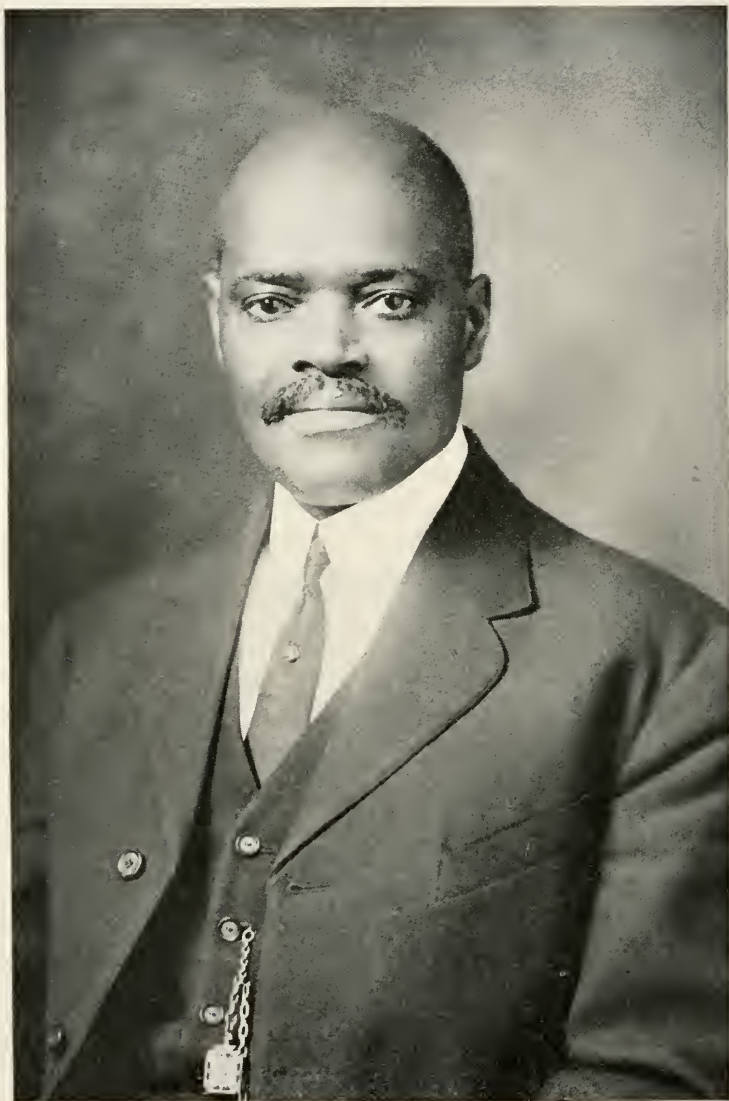
## AQUILA SAYLES

Rev. Aquila Sayles, D.D., pastor of the Providence Baptist Church, Washington, D. C., is a native of the Old Dominion, having been born in Carolina County, Va., on November 29, 1862, right in the midst of the war between the States and in a part of the State which saw much of the activities of the struggling forces. Immediately after the close of the great struggle which brought freedom and opportunity to the race, the Sayles family moved to Washington where our subject has since resided. He was then about three years of age. His father, George Sayles, was a carpenter and was the son of John Sayles. Dr. Sayle's mother was Elizabeth Garner before her marriage.

Growing up in Washington, young Sayles attended the public school for eight years. After that he attended private school nine years and went to Howard University four years, graduating from the theological department of that institution in 1901. He is now (1921) president of the Alumni Association of the Theological Department of Howard. Before entering the ministry, he was the trusted employe of A. Saks & Co., clothing store. During his last year in college his employers and white associates at the store put on a "benefit" for him at his church which provided funds for that year's expenses. This is the only gathering of its kind on record in Washington.

Mr. Sayles was converted when he was about twenty years of age and joined the Zion Baptist Church. Almost immediately he felt called to preach the Gospel and became active in religious work. In fact, he was doing effective preaching long before he was licensed. He was licensed by the Zion Baptist Church in 1896 and ordained to the full work of the





AQUILA SAYLES

ministry on February 25, 1901. His first pastorate was the Mt. Olive Baptist Church of Arlington, Va., which he served for eight years. While on that work pews and lights were installed and the church remodeled and left free of debt. In 1904 he accepted a call to the Providence Baptist Church for part time. For some years he continued to serve both churches, but the increasing demands of the growing work and the splendid opportunities offered by the field at Providence convinced him of the wisdom of devoting his whole time to that part of the vineyard. Accordingly he resigned Mt. Olive and has with singleness of heart devoted himself to the development of the work at Providence. The results have shown the wisdom of this course, for under his administration the church has enjoyed a great period of prosperity. A house of worship has been purchased and fourteen thousand dollars expended on it, the amount being paid out two years in advance of the time set for final settlement. Out of gratitude for his wise financial leadership his congregation, which now consists of four hundred fifty members recently presented him an automobile. In recognition of his work and attainments Howard University, in 1911, conferred on him the D.D. degree. He is also president of the trustee board of the Stoddard Baptist Home in Washington and vicinity. He is a member of the executive board of the Mt. Bethel Baptist Association and a member of the Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Baptist Convention. He is a Mason.

Dr. Sayles has been married twice and has been called to go through the deep waters. He was married, first, to Miss Jennie Luckett of Virginia, on January 10, 1884. She bore him eight children, only one of whom survives, Naomi (now Mrs. Morton of New York). On February 16, 1907, Mrs. Sayles passed to her reward. Subsequent to her death on January 9, 1908, Dr. Sayles married Miss Carrie Campbell of Washington.

Looking back over his life and work, Dr. Sayles gives greatest credit for his success in life, perhaps, to the early influence of his mother. After that he speaks with humble gratitude of the mother of his children and of her who now walks by his side.

During the war he was one of the Four Minute Men and took an active part in all the drives and campaigns. He is a general reader. He believes that the progress of the race depends on the Gospel, education, and property.

# WILLIAM H. JERNAGIN

The Rev. William Henry Jernagin, A.B., D.D., President of the National Race Congress of America, and pastor of the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church of Washington, D. C., has back of him an unusual record of achievements. He is an unselfish leader of his race, proud of its history and progress in the past and enthusiastic and hopeful of its development in the future. He is neither ignorant nor unmindful of the obstacles in the path of the Negro. His attitude toward obstacles and difficulties is not unlike that of the Apostle Paul. He will go any length to remove them when possible, but when immovable he uses them as a stepping stone to something higher. Dr. Jernagin is a native of Mississippi, born October 13, 1869, near Macon. His parents were Allen and Julia R. Jernagin. His father was a farmer and carpenter, after the old order, and the boy worked on the farm till he was sixteen. Between seasons, he attended the local public schools and in the country built up a strong physique which has stood well the strain of the years. Passing from the public school, he did his preparatory work at Meridian Academy and Alcorn College. He went to Jackson College for his literary and his theological courses which was completed in 1896. He also took a special correspondence course out of Danville, N. Y. Subsequently the College of Guadalupe, Texas, conferred on him the doctor's degree in recognition of his work and attainments. October 15, 1889, Dr. Jernagin was happily married to Miss Willie Stennis, of Mississippi. Mrs. Jernagin is an accomplished woman. She was educated at Meridian and was before her marriage a teacher. Their union was blessed with five children, three of them survive: Lottie R. Adams (married), Rosa B. (clerk), and Gertrude E. Jernagin (teacher, in the Washington School System.) Dr. Jernagin was converted when he was thirteen years of age and joined the Baptist church. For nearly forty years he has been active in church work. When seventeen, he felt called to preach the Gospel and was licensed by the Brush Fork Baptist church in 1890. Two years later he was ordained to the work of the ministry by the Pine Grove Baptist church and began what has been a most successful and fruitful ministry. His first pastorate was the Mt. Moriah Baptist church, near Meridian which he served for four



WILLIAM HENRY JERNAGIN

years. The church was improved and the congregation built up. He preached at Oktiba three years and repaired the house of worship. He served the Bethena Baptist Church at Scoba, Mississippi two years, from which church he was elected to the business management of the boarding department of the Alcorn College. He held this position for two years. His next pastorate was the Missionary Union Baptist Church, Okolona, Miss. Here he united two churches and had a most successful pastorate, stretching over a period of three years. He went from there to Winona, First Church, and served four years. He preached at Mount Bayou three years and at the old town of Brandon one year. The house of worship at Brandon was renovated. In 1902 he organized the Young Peoples Christian Educational Congress of Mississippi, which consisted of all the denominations, and was President until he left the State. He then accepted a call from the Tabernacle Baptist Church of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and entered upon a most successful pastorate lasting for nearly nine years. The church edifice was completed and paid for. The church grew in strength and numbers and the pastor grew in popularity and in the esteem of his people. He was elected President of Oklahoma General Baptist Convention because of his ability and leadership, which position he held till the Oklahoma and Indian Territory Convention were united, and he retired. He was President of the State Constitutional League of Oklahoma until he left the State which league looked after the manhood rights of his race. In 1912, he was called to the Capitol City of the nation to take charge of the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church. The membership has grown from a mere handful to a great congregation of fifteen hundred. The splendid house of worship formerly occupied by the Central Presbyterian church (white) has been purchased. Every department has been organized so that Mt. Carmel makes itself felt in the religious life of Washington.

Dr. Jernagin is President of the General Convention of the District of Columbia and Vice-President of the National Baptist Convention. He is a trustee of Virginia Theological Seminary and College at Lynchburg and a trustee of the Stoddard Baptist Old Folks Home, Washington, D. C., and vice-President at large of the National S. S. & B. Y. P. U. Congress of America. In 1916 Dr. Jernagin headed a movement which resulted in the organization of the National Race Congress of which he has been President since its organization. Annual meetings of



the Congress are held, composed of delegates from the local units. The object of the Congress is to promote the general welfare of the race, especially along the lines of political and civic rights, protection before the law, legal resistance of segregation, Jim Crow restrictions and discrimination and preservation of every kind, the blocking of State and National legislation based on caste, the fighting of lynching and mob violence, and the conservation and protection of the manhood rights of colored people in America. Under his able leadership the organization has come to be recognized by both races. During the war Dr. Jernagin was very active in all the drives and campaigns and was one of the four minute men who did such effective work. In 1919 he was sent by the Congress to Pan-African Conference that met in Paris during the Peace Conference, and was appointed on the committee to present the memorial to the Peace Conference. Preached in many of the colored camps and had over 600 conversions in 4 sermons and visited many of the battlefields. He was also elected by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America as delegate to present a memorial from the Federal Council to the Peace Conference in Paris. In the spring of 1921 when President, King of Liberia visited Washington, he and the members of the Commission accompanying him, were entertained at a dinner in the home of Dr. Jernagin. Other distinguished guests from Washington and other cities were present.

In 1921, Dr. Jernagin visited Europe as a delegate to the second Pan-African Congress and traveled extensively in Scotland, England, France, Italy, Belgium and Switzerland to make some educational observations and acquaint himself with racial conditions in the world. To this end he held a number of conferences in London.

Such in a word, is the story of a Mississippi Negro boy whose work has made his name known in every part of the country.

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# THOMAS E. JONES

During the last two decades, the medical profession has attracted a class of young men who, while serving the race, have been an ornament to the profession, and who have reflected credit on the race. As a rule they are men of broad general culture and a knowledge of affairs which enables them to hold their own in any environment. It is gratifying to note they have met with a measure of financial success which indicates that the race will liberally support its professional men if they come to their work adequately equipped. One of the successful young physicians and surgeons of Washington City is Dr. Thomas Edward Jones. He is a native of Virginia, having been born at the "Hill City," Lynchburg, on May 26, 1880. His father, Campbell Jones, was a merchant, and his mother, before her marriage, was Miss Emma Glenn.

As a boy, young Jones attended the public and high school at Lynchburg. Later he went to Howard University for his college and medical courses and remained with that institution till he was graduated with the M.D. degree in 1912. The way to an education was not easy for Dr. Jones. At different times he was newsboy, waiter, messenger, laborer, and watchman in the government service. These things meant hard work, but the youth kept cheerful and refused to be discouraged. Cheerful as he was there was a sort of grimness about his determination which did not reckon defeat in the account at all. Of course, he succeeded. That is the way to success.

On completion of his course at Howard he began practice in Washington, where he has since resided, except for the time that he was attached to the military service. His record in the war is a worthy and honorable one and won for him the Distinguished Service Cross for distinguished service in action with the rank of Captain in the Medical Corps. He was abroad for 8 months, on the Meuse-Argonne and the Vosges defensive sector. He is now (1921) Assistant Surgeon-in-chief at the Freedman's Hospital. Naturally his professional books find first place in his reading. After those he has found the Bible and scientific books most helpful. In politics he is a Republican and among the secret orders is identified with the Masons, Odd Fellows, Pythians and other local benevolent orders. He is a member of the following professional societies:



THOMAS EDWARD JONES

Medico-Chirurgical of the District and the National Medical Association. He is medical examiner for the orders with which he is identified, and belongs to the M. E. Church, in which he is a steward.

On April 2, 1902, Dr. Jones was married to Miss Leonie A. Sinkler, daughter of Edward and Mary Sinkler of Charleston, S. C. Mrs. Jones was educated at Charleston and was an accomplished teacher before her marriage. Dr. Jones is of the opinion that the best interests of the race are to be promoted, "by diligence, prudence and discretion, by acting for the good of the masses rather than for selfish motives and by the accumulation of property and by manifesting a financial interest in the projects of the community in which we live."

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## REMBERT T. NELSON

Rembert Thomas Nelson, Doctor of Dental Surgery, Washington, D. C., is a young man of quick perception, whose whole career hinged on his ability to grasp a fact, and the will to decide and act.

Dr. Nelson was born in Galveston, Texas, December 4, 1888, son of Ransom and Frances Sharp Nelson. His paternal grand-parents were George and Martha Nelson, and on the maternal side Wyatt and Emma Sharp. His great grandfather, Isaac Sharp, died in 1892 at a great age. Ransom Nelson was a barber, who died while Rembert was a youth, and his widow only lived to see her son a student in Normal school. Young Nelson went through Galveston Grammar and High Schools, and in 1906 entered Sam Houston Normal at Austin, Texas. Here occurred the incident referred to in the first paragraph. He broke the rule with reference to smoking and was suspended. Wandering into a neighboring barber shop, very much in the dumps, he encountered two old men with their bucksaws who were regretting their lack of education, which fact had doomed them to a life of drudgery. The youth listened, saw the truth, gathered up his courage, secured work at a hotel, went back to school next year and finished at the head of his class. After finishing at Sam Houston he did two years work at the University of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio (1910-12) and in 1912 moved to Washington.

September 8, 1910, while in Columbus he had married Miss Eugenia T. Goodson, a native of Texas, educated at Fort Worth, and this but spurred him to greater effort. He stood the civil service examination and secured an appointment in the Navy Department at Washington. He immediately began to save up in order to have the money to take a Dental Course at Howard University. In 1914 he saw his way clear, entered Howard and was graduated with his D.D.S. degree in 1917. He had his degree but no money to equip an office. Seizing the opportunity then presented by the war he entered the service of the Lachawanna Steel Co., making coke, shells, etc., at fabulous wages and in this way was able to open up for practice in 1918 with no debts and a clear field. His venture has prospered, as might have been easily anticipated. He has a good practice which steadily grows.

In his youth Dr. Nelson worked as dining car waiter on the Southern Pacific system in the Southwest and Mexico, which, while gaining the money to pay his school expenses also gained him wide travel experience in the southwestern United States and Mexico. He is a lover of poetry, which proves that the university of hard knocks has not driven sentiment out of his soul.

A Republican in his political leanings, his residence in the District of Columbia leaves no occasion for activity in politics.

He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, the Masons, the Odd Fellows, the Robert T. Freeman Dental Association, National Medical Association and Interstate Dental Association.

For his race he can see no better way for it to progress than for its members to have confidence in themselves and take a man's chance. He knows by experience that it will work.

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## ROBERT H. TERRELL

It is not easy to write the story of Judge Robert Heberton Terrell, A.B., A.M., LL.B., LL.D., LL.M., of Washington without indulging in superlatives. As student, teacher, lawyer, jurist, his work has been brilliant and unique. He is an ornament to his profession and to his race—more than that, he is an ornament to both races, for he is more white than black





ROBERT HEBERTON TERRELL

and has a record of accomplishment back of him of which any man might well be proud.

Judge Terrell is a native of Virginia, having been born at Orange, Va., on November 25, 1857, about four years before the outbreak of the war which was to bring freedom and opportunity to him and to his people. His father was William Henry Harrison Terrell, usually known by his last name, Harrison Terrell. His mother, who, before her marriage, was Louisa Ann Coleman, was the daughter of Robert and Isabella Coleman.

Coming of school age during the war, young Terrell was, of course, not permitted to go to school in Virginia. After the war the family moved to Washington, and it was here he laid the foundation of his education in the public schools, where later he was to become teacher and principal. From the grades he passed to the high school where he made a brilliant record. His college preparatory work was done at Lawrence Academy, Groton, Mass. When ready for college, he matriculated at Harvard, graduating with the A.B. degree, *cum laude*, 1884. This splendid record was further enhanced by the fact that he was one of five successful contestants for speaker's place at commencement, with honorable mention in Greek. He was the third colored man to graduate from Harvard. Returning from college, he taught in Washington High Schools from 1884-89. As a youth he was drawn to the law as a profession—that profession which “is as ancient as magistracy, noble as virtue and necessary as justice.” He carried on his law studies at Howard University while teaching and in 1889, was graduated with the LL.B. degree. Again he led his class of which he was valedictorian. Later he won the LL.M. degree from the same institution. During the administration of President Harrison he was in the Federal service, being Chief of Division in the Treasury Department. During the second Cleveland administration he was displaced and was for three years principal of what is now Dunbar High School.

He had been admitted to the bar in 1893, including all the courts sitting in the District from the U. S. Supreme Court down. His first law practice was in partnership with ex-Congressman John R. Lynch. The partnership was dissolved when Mr. Lynch went to the Spanish-American War, and Mr. Terrell continued to practice in Washington. He was not long making a name for himself.

In 1902 he was appointed Judge of the Municipal Court of the District of Columbia by President Roosevelt and later reappointed by him. His third appointment was by President Taft. With the coming in of a Democratic administration under President Wilson, one would naturally expect to see Judge Terrell displaced. The simple facts—strange as they read—are that he had the unanimous recommendation of the local bar association, composed of Democrats and Republicans and predominantly Southern, was appointed and re-appointed by Mr. Wilson and both times confirmed by a Democratic Senate. Two other things need to be said. When the Judge's appointment was up for confirmation, the fact was brought out that in seven years the Court of Appeals had reversed Judge Terrell only twice. The other is that he is the only negro Judge in the U. S. under Federal appointment.

On October 28, 1891, Judge Terrell was married to Miss Mary Eliza Church, a brilliant young lady of Memphis, Tenn. She was educated at Oberlin and later specialized in languages at Paris, Berlin and Florence. Of the five children born to them two are living. They are Mary L. Terrell and Phyllis C. (now Mrs. Goines).

It need hardly be said that the Judge is a Republican. He takes an active interest in matters relating to the progress and development of his race and is much in demand as a speaker at public occasions and race gatherings. His intellectual fibre may be judged from the fact that next after his professional books, his favorite reading is the Classics. He has written a number of pamphlets, among which may be mentioned, "The Negro in America Since Emancipation," "Negro Soldiers in All the Wars of America," and "The Negro of Today."

Judge Terrell is a member of the Congregational Church and was for many years Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Lincoln Memorial Church. He is a Mason and was for four years G. M. of the Masons of D. C. and is now Chairman of Committee on Jurisprudence. He also belongs to the Odd Fellows and is a member of the Pi Sigma Phi Greek letter fraternity. During the War he was Chairman of the Community Service for colored people in the District of Columbia.

Judge Terrell has been an intelligent observer of conditions and is of the opinion that progress and development depend on a continuation of the struggle for education, coupled with that which will give standing in the business world.

# WILLIAM L. HOUSTON

One of the upstanding men of the race is the Hon. William LePré Houston, attorney at law, Washington, D. C. He was born in Mount City, Ill., on May 14, 1870, the son of Rev. T. J. Houston and Katie Houston. The family moved to Indiana, however, while the boy was still a child. His father was a Baptist preacher of limited means, but a man who appreciated the value of an education. His mother was a Christian woman of strong character who was determined that her children should be educated and should rise in the world. They gave the boy what help they could. He had largely to make his own way, however, and fought sturdily forward for the education he so much craved. He went to the public schools of Indiana for his elementary schooling and passed from there to the Evansville High School from which he graduated. Young Houston early decided upon law as his life work. He taught school for awhile at Henderson, Ky., Paducah, Ky., and at Evansville, Ind., but that was merely a means to the end, which was his law course. When ready for that he came East, matriculated in the Law Department of Howard University and won his L.L.B. degree in 1892. In December of that year he was admitted to the bar. He had helped himself through school by holding a position as clerk in the War Department and remained in the government service for some time after his admission to the bar. He has now been practicing for more than fifteen years and is known as one of the most active and successful lawyers of his race in the city, with an exclusively civil practice.

He practices in all the courts of the District and was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States on October 12, 1908. He is also a member of the Law Faculty of Howard University.

Mr. Houston is the general attorney for many concerns, among them may be mentioned the Railway Men's International Benevolent Industrial Association, with thirty thousand members; Skilled and Unskilled Railway Employees; Colored Association of Railway Employees; Porter's Union; Grand United Order of Locomotive Firemen. All the above are nation-wide societies and organizations. In the local field he represents such corporations as The Liberty Department



WILLIAM LEPRE HOUSTON



Store Co., The Terminal Porter's Co., and the Southern Coal and Supply Co., besides a large number of clients engaged in business at the Capitol and others with affairs requiring the active services of an attorney, such as inventors who seek to obtain patents. His work as a patent attorney is very large. For four years, from 1906-10, he was National Grand Master of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows. He is also a Mason and a member of the N. A. A. C. P. In 1915, Mr. Houston founded the Supreme Order of Helpers of which organization he is the National Secretary.

The wide spread of his activities will be noted. He is not a sluggard in any movement that appeals to him, but is intensely active in every direction looking to the promotion of the racial welfare. The position he has won in Washington, both as a citizen and as a professional man, may be inferred from the fact that he is a member of the Board of Education of the Capital City of the Republic.

Mr. Houston has been an extensive traveller in this country. Outside of his professional reading, he has found biography and history most helpful and entertaining. His very large library which has been selected with great care, contains many of the best volumes in literature.

He was married on July 16, 1891, to Miss Mary E. Hamilton of Cedarville, Ohio. She is of Wilberforce University and was before her marriage a successful teacher. They have one son, Charles Hamilton Houston, a graduate of the Harvard Law School, class 1922. He is an A.B. of Amherst and during the World War was one of the fifty or sixty Colored men who held commissions as Lieutenants in the artillery branch of the service. A promising young man, travelling in the footsteps of his father, who will soon become a member of the law firm of Houston and Houston. Mr. Houston believes that the progress of the race depends largely upon a race consciousness and solidarity, and is doing his part manfully to forward the upward climb of his people.

Here is a man who by sheer force of character and ability, urged by laudable ambition, has wrought himself forward to a position of influence and consideration. He has been the architect of his own fortune and is a living proof that no sort of handicap will prevent the right sort of man from winning the position to which he is entitled by real merit. It is gratifying to note that the years have brought to Mr. Houston financial as well as professional prosperity. He is considered

one of the substantial Colored men of affairs in Washington, having accumulated valuable real estate, besides his residence property.

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## JAMES C. DOWLING

The best American stories are not romances but the simple record of what ambitious boys struggling up from humble places to positions of large service and usefulness have done for themselves and for their people. No race or section has a monopoly of those qualities which make for success. Whoever wants an index to the progress of the colored race may find it in the increasing number of her young men who dare to enter those professions in which exact knowledge and years of careful training are necessary to success. Medicine is one of these professions and one of the Washington boys to make a name and a place for himself in the profession is Dr. James Carter Dowling. He was born at Washington on May 20, 1875. His father, Mead Dowling is still living (1921). His mother, before her marriage, was Ellen Chew, daughter of Jane Chew. His paternal grandmother was Mary Dowling.

Growing up in Washington, young Dowling attended the local public and High School. He passed from the High School to the medical department of Howard University and won his M.D. degree in 1899. He began private practice in the same year and has specialized in Ophthalmology. Unlike most young men he found an inviting field at his door and has continued to reside in Washington. He has the chair of Ophthalmology at his Alma Mater and has charge of the eye clinic at the Freedmen's Hospital. He belongs to the Sphinx, the Mu-So-Lit and the Physician Reading Clubs.

In politics he is a Republican, but having lived in the District all his life has been automatically disfranchised. He is a member of the Baptist church and is identified with the Chi Delta Mu, a Greek letter fraternity exclusively for medical men. He belongs to the National Medical Association and the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Washington, having been secretary of the latter for several years. Dr. Dowling takes an active interest in all matters relating to the progress and welfare of the race and is a member of the N. A. A. C. P.

Next after his professional books, his favorite reading is history and biography.

On Sept. 6, 1905, he was married to Miss Mamie J. Thomas of Ohio. They have an adopted daughter, Hazel Dowling. Dr. Dowling took an active part in the drives and campaigns during the war. His property interests and investments are in Washington. He resides at 1119 U. St. N. W.

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## EDWARD W. TURNER, SR.

The shortest and best biography that was ever written was that of the Great Teacher, of whom it was said, "He went about doing good." And so it is sometimes possible to sum up in a single expression the life work of some sturdy old pioneer, like Prof. Edward Walter Turner, Sr. If one were to write "faithful, unselfish service after his name, the story would lack details, but would be fairly told. In school and church and racial organizations, as a government employee and as a citizen, he has sought to minister rather than be ministered unto.

Carlyle in his "Heroes and Hero Worshippers" attributes the growth of ideas, the progress of civilization and the approximation of man's nature to those higher attributes of the Creator, which elevate and ennoble him, to the worship of some hero who was the embodiment of a great principle or the discoverer of a new possibility. He says, "Responsibility, leadership, applause, furnish the inspiration that sustains a worker for humanity and enables him to continue his labors under the most distressing or discouraging circumstances."

Prof. Turner was born in the District of Columbia on October 25, 1850. His mother Sarah Turner Mercier, was a devoted Christian, rendering loyal and consecrated service to her parents in the foundation of the M. E. Church in Washington, D. C.

As a boy, young Turner attended private school in Washington before the establishment of public schools for colored children. He had not proceeded far, however, before the Civil War broke out in all its fury and the boy became a dispatch carrier and messenger to Gen. Lewis B. Parson in



Yours truly.  
J. H.  
Evenson Sr

the Transportation Division of the Quarter-master General's office, and was kept busy till the close of hostilities. He was the first colored boy to carry newspapers on the streets of Washington.

In 1866 he went with his mother to Springfield, Mass., where he continued his studies. While living in New England, young Turner was persuaded to go to Lincoln University, where he studied for two years and finished the preparatory course. At the end of two years, he went South as a missionary and teacher, commissioned by the Freedmen's Aid Society of the Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, Pa. He opened a school in Granville County, N. C., and taught there till 1869. It is hard for the present generation to realize conditions as they existed during the years immediately following the war. Conditions were chaotic—a new civilization was in the making. Social standards were just taking shape, the religious life of the race had not yet crystalized into denominational organizations and ideas of law and order were more or less hazy. Into this atmosphere came the ambitious young teacher from the North. He was more than a school teacher, he was a pioneer, seeking to blaze a way out of the wilderness of ignorance, superstition and poverty for his people. He was counsellor, guide and protector in many matters of business and family life. He soon won the confidence and esteem of the people.

In 1869 he returned North with the idea of completing his course at Lincoln. While in Washington, he was induced by Gen. O. O. Howard to take a clerkship for half time in the Freedman's Bureau and enter Howard University. Three years later he completed the academic and scientific courses, and in the same year became reporter for "The Daily Chronicle." The class of '72 developed a excellent body of business and professional men and women.

In 1873 he returned to North Carolina and organized the Franklin Seminary near Franklinton. Many of the most capable religious and educational leaders of the race in that and other states laid the foundation of their education in this school and have borne willing testimony during the years of Prof. Turner's sacrificing work as a teacher.

On December 31st of this same year, (1873) Prof. Turner was married to Miss Lucy Ann Scott, daughter of John W. Scott, a man of some means who gave property for school and



church. She bore him ten children, eight of whom still survive. They are Ida C. (Mrs. Payne), Esther W. (Mrs. Oxley), Lucy A. (Mrs. Morton), Edward W. Jr., George Ruffin, Miss Sarah E., Joshua A., and Miss Addie R. Turner. Two daughters have passed to their reward. Miss Bessie V. Turner died on August 2, 1898, while Miss Alice Naomi Turner, a teacher in the public schools and a popular and charming young lady, passed away on October 30, 1920.

This sketch would not be complete without some reference to the relation existing in the Turner home for forty-seven years between mother and children; with a self-sacrificing Christian spirit there is a union; as companion, associate and friend, confidence was unshaken in unveiling the mysteries and complicated affairs of life, removing the clouds and adding sunshine and happiness and developing character which enables them to shun the pitfalls common to the human family. All honor to the mother who has kept the home fire burning with pure and peaceful surroundings.

Beginning in 1873, Prof. Turner spent seventeen fruitful years teaching in upper Carolina. When his work as a teacher became known, and as the motives which actuated him as a good citizen were recognized, his influence grew beyond the school-room, and reached out into the fields of politics, religion, journalism and economies. For years he was the most influential man politically in that part of the State. He assisted in the organization of the Colored State Fair at Raleigh and was for ten years associated with its management. He became a well-known figure in every part of the state and was known as the "silver-tongued orator."

From 1884 to 1890 he was principal of The Kittrell Academy where he did splendid work. About that time an effort was being made to locate a Methodist school at that point. In 1885 Bishop Wm. F. Dickerson and others visited Kittrell but the Bishop was avowedly opposed to the movement. Prof. Turner and his friends, white and colored, made the welcome so cordial, and Mrs. Turner superintended the preparation of such a satisfying dinner that the visit was prolonged and contract closed for the purchase of the famous Kittrell Springs property, and what is now known as Kittrell College, established under the auspices of the A. M. E. Church. The Academy closed in 1890 and many of the pupils enrolled in the new school.

In that year, Prof. Turner was a leader in the movement which put Hon. H. P. Cheatham in Congress from the Second District. In that year also he secured an appointment in the Census Bureau and moved to Washington in order that he might give his children the educational advantages of Washington schools. During the Spanish American War, he was confidential mailing clerk to the Post Master General, the First Assistant Post Master General, and the Assistant Attorney-General of the Post Office Department. His term has been extended as an acknowledgement of twenty-three years of faithful and efficient service.

Among the secret orders, Prof. Turner belongs to the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Pythians. He is a member of the Lincoln Temple Congregational Church in which he has been active for years. His work brought him in contact with the leadership of both races, North and South. He has numerous autograph letters from men like Vice-President Henry Wilson, Sen. Chas. Sumner, of Mass., Hon. S. J. Bowen, Garrett Smith, Generals Grant, Sherman, Howard and Butler, Bishops Newman, Payne and Handy, and many others.

The organizations which he has founded have been not for his own profit, but for the benefit of his fellow men. Among those in which he has been active may be mentioned the Farmers' Alliance of N. C.; the Industrial Savings Bank and the Federation of Men's Church Clubs of the District of Columbia. His identity with the True Reformers and his contributions to "The Reformer" when that organ had a wide circulation added strength to that great order.

He was a delegate from Thomas H. Wright Lodge No. 9607 to the Twentieth B. M. C., New York City, September 13-20, 1920. This is the highest legislative tribunal of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, composed of representative men and women of the United States, Canada and the British Isles. Many complicated questions were settled at this session, and the principles of F. L. and T. firmly perched on its banner. The Hon. Edward H. Morris was re-elected Grand Master, proclaiming, "Malice to none, but charity to all."

Prof. Turner is the founder and president of the Federation of Men's Church Clubs of the District of Columbia, which formed a permanent organization August 11, 1919. The object is to extend the bounds of Christian work among the citizens of the District, the general uplift of

humanity touching chiefly the civic, moral and religious sides of life upon the basis of liberty, equality and fraternity. He is also vice-president of the Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia and P. G. C. of the K. of P. and Treasurer of the Crispus Attucks and Home Benefit Relief Association. He is also Trustee of the John Marshall Harlan Relief Association. On February 13, 1921, he assisted in the organization of the Cliff Rock Beneficial Association with 350 members which in six months grew to a membership of more than two thousand.

Prof. Turner believes in the all round symmetrical development which will include the head, the heart and the hand. He is himself an excellent example of what that means in the life of the individual.

Prof. Turner has recently been appointed a member of the Committee on management, Twelfth St. Branch, young Men's Christian association of Washington.

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## WILLIAM D. JARVIS

Virginia has contributed to the ministry of all denominations and of both races a remarkable number of strong men. Among the prominent ministers of the Baptist denomination in Washington must be mentioned Rev. William Daniel Jarvis, D.D., pastor of the New Bethel Baptist Church.

Dr. Jarvis is a native of Matthews County, Va., where he was born just about the time of the outbreak of the War between the States on May 20, 1861. His parents were William Daniel and Sallie Jarvis. Mr. Jarvis was married on November 23, 1882 to Miss Georgia A. Herbert of Washington, though a native of Virginia. They have five children: William E., Chester II., Novella, Marie and Bertha Jarvis.

Dr. Jarvis' parents moved to Norfolk when their son was but a child and he attended, for a short while, a public school there. Later they moved to Washington, where he entered a private school, and then did some special work in Theology at Howard University. He has resided in Washington for more than forty years. In recognition of his work and attainments, the degree of D.D. was conferred on him by Guadalupe College, Texas in 1907.



WILLIAM DANIEL JARVIS

Dr. Jarvis had grown to manhood before he was converted. When about twenty-two years of age he gave his heart to God and joined the Zion Baptist Church. On the same day he was baptized, he preached a sermon and at once became active in church work. For a number of years he took a leading part in every activity of his church and during the period of sixteen years held almost every position in his church except that of pastor. He was Superintendent of the Sunday School for nine years. He has tried to serve wherever service could be rendered. He was ordained to the full work of the ministry on December 20, 1901, by the Zion Baptist Church. After that he served a mission at Deanwood for eight months. In February, 1903, he was called to the New Bethel Baptist Church which he has served continuously since. His work at New Bethel has been marked by steady growth in the membership. The house of worship has been beautified and every department of the work well organized. In politics Dr. Jarvis is a Republican and among the secret and benevolent orders, he is identified with the Masons and Odd Fellows. He was President of the Ministers' Conference of Washington for a period of eight years and Superintendent of the Baptist Sunday School Union for two years. He also served as Chairman of the Committee on Summer Outings Camp.

Next to the Bible, his favorite reading consists of history and biography. Dr. Jarvis has been a hard worker all his life. He puts energy and enthusiasm into whatever he undertakes. Before entering upon the work of the ministry, he was engaged in the fish and oyster business. In recent years in connection with his religious work, he has also been a teacher in the Frelinghuysen University. So it will be seen that Dr. Jarvis is a man of varied interests and accomplishments.

He took an active part in the local war work and is a member of the Employment Committee. He also belongs to the N. A. A. C. P.

He believes that the progress of the race depends on economy and that sort of self dependence which will enable men to take the initiative and push to the front. His property interests and investments are in Washington.

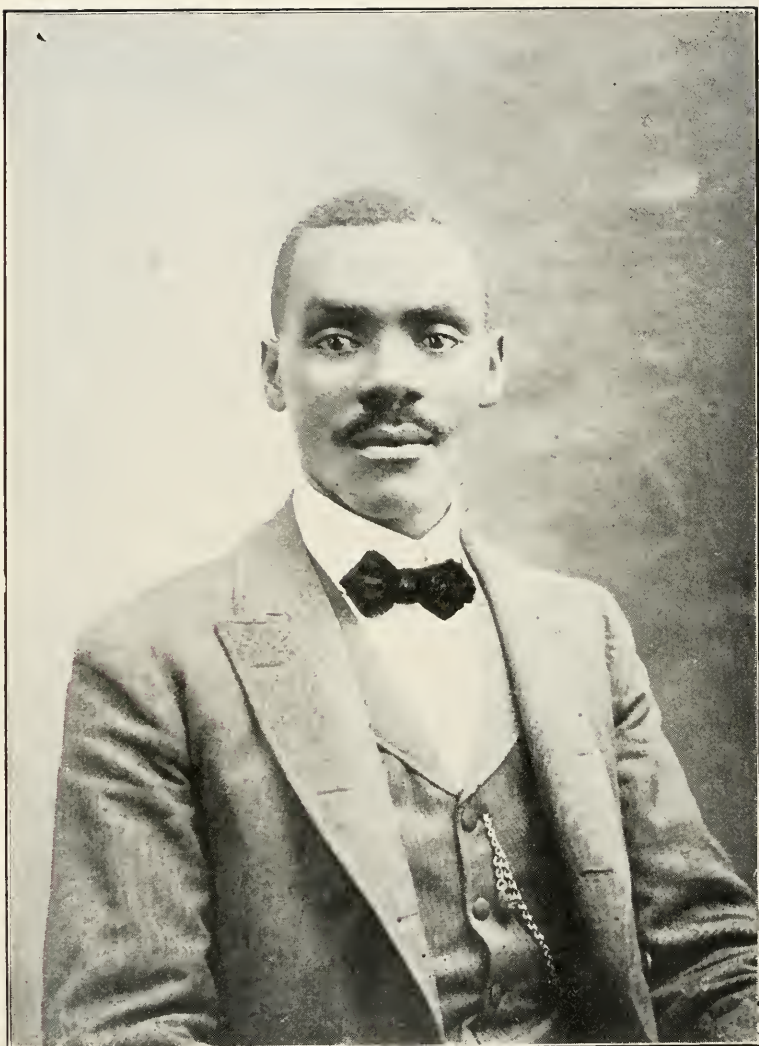
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# ALFRED JOHNSON TYLER

It is always refreshing to find a man who tries to carry out the fundamental principles of his profession, whatever that profession may be. Rev. Alfred Johnson Tyler, pastor of the Mt. Airy Baptist Church of Washington is such a man. There have been times when he has had to do his work in an atmosphere that was not sympathetic and in an environment that was antagonistic. Instead of returning railing for railing he has gone ahead with his work with quiet dignity. The result has been the prosperity of his work and that is what counts with Mr. Tyler.

He is a native of Caroline Co., Va., where he was born during the war, on March 6, 1863. His father, Addison Tyler, was a local preacher and his mother's name was Eliztbeth. In 1873 the family moved to Washington and young Tyler attended the public schools. He had to help support the family and so went to work at the age of sixteen. This meant the end of his regular schooling, but not the end of his education. As a matter of fact he has been a student all his life and continues to learn. He was converted as a mere boy and preached his first sermon at eleven, though it was years later that he entered upon the active work of the ministry. The years of his youth were spent at hard work in various lines, but he never abandoned the idea of preaching the Gospel. He had gone to Pennsylvania to work, and in 1895 was licensed to preach by the Shiloh Baptist Church of Pittsburg. The following year he was ordained to the full work of the ministry by the Bethlehem Baptist Church of McKeesport. In the fall of 1895 Mr. Tyler accepted an invitation to preach at the Bethlehem Baptist Church at McKeesport. Soon after this the church lost its pastor and sought the services of Mr. Tyler till such time as they could secure a pastor. After surveying the field, he found that it was badly in need of a capable leader, but poor financially. His own self sacrificing spirit as well as the poverty of the church may be judged from the fact that all he asked in the way of salary was enough to pay his house rent. He began his work there January 1896. It was on August 27, of the same year that he was ordained. Pressing the work here



ALFRED JOHNSON TYLER

with vigor, it soon began to grow and to gain strength in numbers and in power. The needs of the growing congregation made the remodeling of the church necessary. While this was not done without opposition it was done successfully under the leadership of the pastor. In 1902, Mr. Tyler resigned the Bethlehem Church to accept the call of the Mt. Horeb Baptist Church at Washington, D. C. He served that congregation for seven months and then at the urgent request of the McKeesport congregation returned to that work, on condition that a new house of worship should be erected. The church was built at an expense of twelve thousand dollars and the congregation continued to grow and prosper. In 1906 he resigned to accept the call of the Mt. Airy Baptist Church of Washington which he has served continuously since. Here the church debt has been paid and eleven thousand dollars paid on another building and the membership has grown from two hundred to eight hundred.

Rev. Mr. Tyler has done a great deal of evangelistic work apart from his own churches, and being unusually successful in that line of work is very much in demand both North and South. Some years ago he became acquainted with the distinguished Dr. C. T. Walker of Georgia and there sprang up between the two men a cordial friendship. For several years he has conducted Dr. Walker's revivals at Augusta, Ga., in what is the greatest Negro church in the South.

Though denied the opportunity of a college education Mr. Tyler has had the wisdom to learn from others with whom he comes in contact. He has refused to be bound by customs in his work when these customs ceased to have any value or meaning. Rather he has gone back to the Bible for his guidance and has sought to follow that in his ministry. He has remarkable power not only in the pulpit but in his personal contacts as well. Some of his most effective work has been done outside the church. He seeks always to be honest with himself and with his fellow man. When he is confronted by a problem he faces the facts in the light of his Bible and refuses to quarrel with those who differ.

Mr. Tyler has been married twice. His first marriage was on May 17, 1892, to Miss Sarah Slaughter of Washington. Of the five children born to this union four are living. They are Amy, Sarah, Allen and Earl Tyler. On May 26, 1915, Mrs. Tyler passed to her reward. Subsequent to her death on De-

ember 9, 1915, he was married to Miss Bell McIntosh of Orange County, Va.

Mr. Tyler is a man of one book and that book is the Bible. In politics he is a Republican. He has not been active in the work of the secret orders. He is a member of the executive board of the Mt. Bethel Baptist Association and of the Ministers Conference of Washington.

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## MOSES W. D. NORMAN

North Carolina has more Baptists than all other denominations combined. This is true of both races. It is not strange therefore that the State has contributed to the pulpit an unusually large number of successful preachers. Some of the most notable men in the Baptist ministry of Washington City come from the Old North State. One of these who has done exceptional work in both the religious and educational fields is Rev. Moses Wilberforce DeWitt Norman, A.B., A.M., D.D., LL.D., pastor of the Metropolitan Baptist Church of the Capital City. Dr. Norman is a native of the historic old town of Plymouth in the eastern part of the State where he was born on August 27, 1867. His father, Moses Norman, was a farmer and his mother, before her marriage, Miss Caroline Alexander. Moses Norman was son of Katie Norman.

Growing up in Washington County, young Norman laid the foundation of his education in the local public schools. Very early in life "an inordinate desire" to help his race possessed him. Even as a small boy he longed to be of service to his people and was accustomed to play preacher or lawyer as the occasion seemed to demand. When he was 19 years of age he was soundly converted and joined the Lilly of the Valley Baptist Church. Yielding himself to the call to preach, he was licensed by the home church on the first Sunday in September, 1887, and in March, 1888, was ordained to the full work of the ministry by the same church.

In those days there was a State Normal School conducted at Plymouth and young Norman passed from the public school to the Normal. Lacking means he had to work his way through school, and, being ambitious to keep up with his



Moses W. D. Norman.





classes, sometimes studied all night. His diet sometimes for weeks consisted of cheese, crackers and peanuts which, if it was not dainty, was at least nutritious. Hard as such a regime may now seem, young Norman did not worry nor consider the experience unusual. He had set himself the task of securing an education and cheerfully paid the price in whatever work and privation were necessary.

In 1888 he was graduated from the State Normal and in the same year begun his work as a teacher in the public schools of the State. Realizing now the importance of adequate education, if he was to enter into large service, he matriculated at Shaw University, graduating with the A.B. degree in 1893. Later the same institution conferred on him the A.M. degree. The esteem in which he was held by those in authority may be inferred from the fact that he was made Dean of the School of Theology at his Alma Mater, a position which he held from 1893 to 1896.

For five years he was President of the Roanoke Collegiate Institute, a denominational school at Elizabeth City, N. C. While in this position he served a circuit of four churches—Bethel, Perquimans County, Gale St., Edenton, Welch's Chapel, Chowan County, Olive Branch, Elizabeth City—and was soon recognized as one of the strong men of the denomination in that part of the State. In 1901, he accepted the call of the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Portsmouth, Va., which he served four years, reduced the indebtedness and had good growth in the membership.

In 1905 he came to his present pastorate at the Metropolitan Baptist Church. Here the man and the opportunity were fairly met. His church is set in the midst of the best colored section of the Capital City of the Nation. When he came to it the membership was around four hundred. The congregation responded to progressive, intelligent leadership and now there are more than five thousand on the church roll. Dr. Norman is not only an eloquent and popular preacher as evidenced by his great congregations, but is also a man of executive ability and has thoroughly organized every department of his work. The denomination was not slow to recognize his qualities of leadership and made him President of the Baptist Ministers Conference, as well as Moderator of the Mt. Bethel Baptist Association. In the National Baptist Convention he is a member of the Board of Education and one

of the National Evangelists of the Evangelistic Department. He was at one time President of the District Convention of Washington and vicinity.

On November 19, 1892, while at Raleigh, Dr. Norman was married to Miss Fannie Bridges, daughter of Nathan and Cherry Bridges of Raleigh. Mrs. Norman was educated at Shaw University and was, before her marriage, an accomplished teacher and musician.

In politics Dr. Norman is a Republican and among the secret orders is identified with the Masons, Odd Fellows, Pythians and St. Lukes, though he can hardly be said to be active in either. After the Bible his reading runs to history biography and works on oratory.

Dr. Norman knows no short cuts to progress or success. He believes that the best interests of the race are to be promoted "by the religion of Jesus Christ; the accumulation of real estate; the education of the children; the cultivation of cordial relations with neighbors without sacrificing manhood or womanhood; fidelity to the churches, for," says he, "the church means infinitely more to my race at this stage than any other institution or any number of others combined."

In recognition of his work and attainments the Virginia Seminary and College conferred on him the degree of D.D. while both Gaudaloupe College of Texas and Frelinghuysen University of Washington gave him the LL.D. degree.

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## BENJAMIN F. WATSON

In the political history of the nation there are certain movements whose story cannot be told apart from the lives of the men who made them. The church also has its pioneers, men of vision and foresight, who work not only for the day in which they live but for their children and for their children's children. Such a man is Rev. Benjamin Franklin Watson, D.D., Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer of the Church Extension Society of the A.M.E. Connection. The whole story of his life and work cannot be told in a few pages. It would take a book to tell of his boyhood as a slave, his army life,



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN WATSON





his struggle for an education, his identity with the rapidly developing civilization of the middle west and finally his constructive work for more than twenty years as the chief executive officer of the Church Extension Society.

Dr. Watson was born at Shelby, Mo., on February 16, 1848. He was the son of a slave woman named Eliza and was himself a slave till he was past twelve years of age. Then like Onesimus of old, he escaped from his master and like that of other slaves he too became a "profitable servant" and a "brother beloved" for his work's sake.

Having escaped from his master, he made his way on his master's horse through Palmyra and Hannibal into Illinois and freedom. Here he went to work, but later enlisted in the Federal Army which held him for about two and a half years. He saw service at Helena, Ark., St. Louis, Mo., and Little Rock, Ark., and was leader of the band of the 60th Regt. He learned the barber trade and as he drifted north into Iowa was always able to find employment. He was a grown young man before he started to school at Des Moines public school. His progress was rapid, however, and later he went to school at Newton, Iowa for awhile. He is, however, for the most part self educated and self made.

In the year 1869, he was soundly converted and joined the A.M.E. Church in which he has been such an important factor for more than half a century. He was licensed to preach the following year and in 1871 was ordained deacon by Bishop Quinn. In 1872 he joined the Conference under Bishop Weyman at Macon City, Mo. He was ordained elder by Bishop Payne in 1873. A mere list of his appointments from the time he joined the conference till he was made a general officer in 1900, is a long and important one and includes some of the most strategic points in the development of the work of the A.M.E connection during the formative period of the middle west. Populous cities and splendid churches are now to be found where then were only small settlements and unpretending missions. His first regular appointment under the conference was at Chillicothe which he served from 1870-72 and erected a new house of worship. He was at Topeka, Kans. for one year, 72-73. From there he went to Springfield, Mo., where in addition to serving as pastor he was made general missionary to Southwest Missouri and remained on that work for two years. From there he was sent to Booneville

for one year and while there paid the church debt. From Booneville he went to Colorado and spent two years in that State. While there he was active in politics as well as in the work of the church, and, as a result, was appointed Chaplain of the first Colorado State Senate. During this time he established the Methodist work at Colorado Springs. In 1877, he went to Macon City to fill out an unexpired term and while there completed the church building. In the latter part of the same year he was sent to Omaha for one year, which was followed by work at Nebraska City and Lincoln. During this period he was also general missionary for the Kansas Conference. In 1878 he was called to Kansas City, Mo., to take the place of Dr. Embry. In 1880 he was elected Commissioner of Education by the General Conference at St. Louis, and secured the ground for the Western University at Quindaro, Kans. From 1881-83 he served as pastor of Wyandotte, Kans., and was at the same time president of the Board of Western University. He went from there to Leavenworth for two years, still retaining his place as president of the University Board. In 1885 he was promoted to the district and presided over the Topeka District for one year. From 87-89 he was stationed at Topeka and went from there to Wichita from '89-91. While serving as pastor at Wichita, he was also general missionary of Oklahoma. At this time he organized and began work on what later developed into the Church Extension Society of which he was secretary from '90-92. In that year he was again put on the district and presided over the Topeka District for one year. From '93-94 he was church evangelist and was again in the pastorate from '94-97. From '97-99 he was pastor at Quincy, Ill., and the following year was at Springfield.

At the meeting of the General Conference at Columbus, Ohio in 1900 he was elected a general officer and made Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer of the Church Extension Society to succeed the late Bishop Shaffer. From that time to this (1921) Dr. Watson has had charge of this important department of the work of the connection. Whatever may be the future of the department, he has built his monument in the hundreds of churches from the Atlantic to the Pacific, which have been assisted in one way or another. Debts have been paid, new houses of worship erected, others purchased outright and many thousands of dollars secured to the con-

nection through the agency of the Extension Society. Nor it this the biggest or best part of the work. Missions have been established where there were no services before and have grown into self-supporting congregations and in some instances into great stations. From 1900 to 1920, he received and reported to the Conference \$544,409.06. It is needless to say that the handling of these funds has called for close attention and rare business judgment, both of which Dr. Watson has exemplified.

He is one of the most widely known men of the connection. He has attended every General Conference since 1876. Altogether he has had a most fruitful ministry and could the hundreds he has brought into the church be gathered into a single congregation it would be a great host.

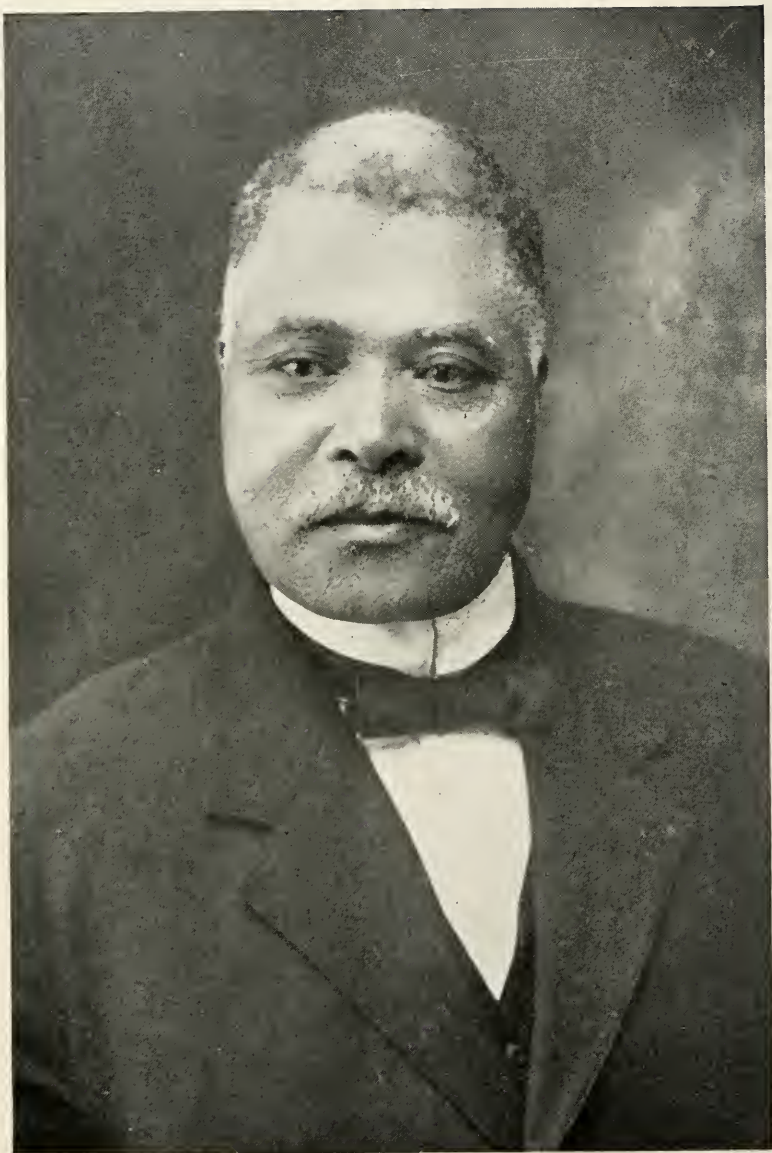
On June 27, 1873, Dr. Watson was married to Miss Frances Booker of Missouri. They had one daughter, Capitola (now Mrs. Smith). Mrs. Watson passed to her reward in January, 1915.

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## WILLIAM A. JONES

It speaks well for a minister of the Gospel when he can continue to serve the same congregation year after year with increasing usefulness. It shows that he has those sterling qualities which wear well. One such man is Rev. William Armistead Jones, pastor of Rock Creek Baptist Church of Washington, D. C.

Like so many of his brethren of the Baptist pulpit in Washington he is a native of Virginia, having been born in the historic old county of Isle of Wight in August, 1861. The exact date cannot be ascertained on account of the absence of written records. For the same reason he knows little of his ancestry except that his mother was Sarah (Harris) Jones. Those days of '61 marked the beginning of that great struggle which was to bring freedom and opportunity to the boy and to his race. It would have been a bold prophet who would have predicted for him a career as a minister of the Gospel in the Capital City of the Nation. But the Lord leads and his kingdom advances.



WILLIAM ARMISTEAD JONES

In '63, young Jones, with a boat load of others, was taken to the Island of Hayti but was returned to the United States in 1864.

When he was about eleven years of age he was brought to Washington where he worked and went to school. It can be truly said of him that he has never been afraid to work.

In 1873 he gave his heart to God and joined the Rock Creek Baptist Church, with which he has since been identified. Even as a boy he was an earnest Christian and was active in the work of the church and Sunday school, so his friends were not surprised when he was called to preach. They gladly licensed him and later ordained him to the full work of the ministry. On the death of Rev. Champ, the pastor, all hearts turned to their fellow laborer, Rev. Jones, and he was duly installed as pastor on August 20, 1902. Since that time many new members have been baptized into the fellowship of the church and the house of worship entirely remodeled. Feeling the need of better preparation he entered Howard University where he remained till the increasing duties of the pastorate claimed all his time. On August 10, 1911, the D.D. degree was conferred on him by the American Correspondence School.

On January 24, 1894, he married Miss Alice Jackson, a native of Ellicott City, Md.

Dr. Jones has also been active in other pastorates, having served the Shiloh Baptist Church in Virginia for 8 years which greatly prospered under his ministry.

He is now pastoring the Mt. Glory Baptist Church where he has been for two years.

In politics he is a Republican. Among the secret orders he is or has been identified with the leading ones, including Masons, Odd Fellows, Samaritans, Love and Charity, and the True Reformers. He is a member of the Ministers Conference and a member of the Executive Board of Mt. Bethel Baptist Association.

He has done considerable evangelistic work and has to his credit many successful revivals. He believes the greatest need of the race is the right sort of education.

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# JAMES ALLEN DAVIS

Mr. James Allen Davis now (1921) identified with the General Land Office of the Department of the Interior of the U. S. at Washington, is a native of Blount County, Tenn., where he was born about a year after the close of the Civil War, on July 4, 1866. His father, John Davis, was a farmer. The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Dolly Garner, daughter of Allen S. and Zilphy Garner. Allen Garner was a slave, but by his energy after regular working hours accumulated enough money to buy his family's freedom.

Growing up on the farm, young Davis attended the local public Schools in Blount County, he passed from the public school to the Freedmen's Normal Institute at Maryville and graduated as a teacher in 1885 and in the teacher's advanced course 1890. After leaving the public school, he had to make his own way. He worked on the K. & O. R.R. in Kentucky with pick and shovel for a dollar and a quarter a day for money to enter the Institute. In 1883 he secured teacher's license and began teaching, after that the way was easier. He had the confidence of the authorities at the Institute and earned a small sum each month looking after the boys in the dormitory. Each year he would teach about four months and then go back to school. Later he was promoted to a place as teacher in the Institute where he had a place on the teaching force composed mostly of white teachers. After completing his work at the Institute, he matriculated at Maryville College where he won his A.B. degree in 1896. In 1898 he was elected Principal of Greenville College, an A. M. E. Zion institution at Greenville, Tenn.

In 1900 Mr. Davis was appointed through the influence of Congressman Henry R. Gibson to a place in the Census Bureau for nearly two years, after that about two years in the city post office and then about six months in the Sixth Auditor's Office of the Treasury Department. He then passed the Civil Service examination and was regularly appointed to the Government service at Washington where he has since resided. Since 1904 Mr. Davis has been in the General Land Office of the Department of the Interior, where he finds the work interesting and instructive.



JAMES ALLEN DAVIS

Soon after moving to Washington Mr. Davis entered the law department of Howard University and won his LL.B. degree there in 1903. The following year he was admitted to the District Bar.

In 1890 Mr. Davis was married to Miss Jeannette Branner, daughter of Minerva Branner of Dandridge, Tenn. Two children were born to this union; one passed away in infancy, the other, John Langston Davis, grew to manhood, served in the 149th Field Artillery overseas during the war, and passed to his reward on March 15, 1921.

Mr. Davis is a member of the A. M. E. Zion Church. He is Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday school and teacher of the Bible class. In fact, he has been identified with the Sunday school all his life. He is also a trustee of his local church. In politics he is a Republican and while residing in Tennessee was more or less active in the councils of the party and was from August 10, 1894 to 1900 J. P. in Blount County. His reading takes quite a wide range with the Bible and the biography holding first place, current literature and the newspapers also finding their places. He is identified with various organizations, including The Men's Club of Galbraith A. M. E. Zion Church, Crispus Attucks Relief Asso., I. O. of St. Luke, Odd Fellows, and the Masons; he holds official position in the last two. Mr. Davis is also a trustee and Secretary-Treasurer of Frelinghuysen University of Washington.

When asked for some expression as to how the best interests of the race are to be promoted, he said: "Let us make the very best of the opportunities afforded us in the industrial world, in the political world, and in the moral and spiritual world. I believe in qualified and efficient progressiveness, that is, be sure you are prepared for and merit the things to which you aspire. Let our lives be so full of merit as to compel the respect and even the love of the best thinking white men. Wherever and whenever this condition is reached, on any considerable scale, we will receive help, from the best, to accomplish the thing desired, with the least show of any compelling physical forces."

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# HARTFORD R. BURWELL

The historic old town of Raleigh, N. C., has produced a number of men of both races who have made their mark. Among the young professional men of Washington from that city must be mentioned Dr. Hartford Ransom Burwell. He was born on October 24, 1885. His father, Richard R. Burwell, was in the Railway Mail Service and was the son of Elizabeth Burwell. The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Lucy Ransom, daughter of Marcellus and Lucy Ransom.

Young Burwell laid the foundation of his education in the Raleigh public schools and passed from there to Hampton Institute for his preparatory work. When ready for college he matriculated at Shaw University from which he won his A.B. degree in 1908. Having determined upon the medical profession as his life work he entered the School of Medicine of Howard University and won his M.D. degree in 1912. While at Howard he also held a position with the Census Bureau. Recognizing in Washington a promising field and attractive place of residence, he located there in 1913 and began the active practice. He gives special attention to surgery, and is a member of the staff of Freedmen's Hospital.

On June 16, 1917, Dr. Burwell was married to Miss Ann Murdock, daughter of Robert B. and Isabelle Murdock of Washington, D. C. Mrs. Burwell was educated at Washington and was, before her marriage, an accomplished teacher. They have two children, Ann and Cordella Ransom Burwell.

In politics Dr. Burwell is independent. He is a member of the Congregational Church, and among the secret orders, belongs to Masons. He is a member of the Medico-Chirurgical Society and the National Medical Association and examiner for Standard Life Insurance Co.

His favorite reading, next after his professional books, consists of the current news and scientific books.

Speaking of conditions of progress among his people, he says: "I think the Negro ought to learn how to bring success out of whatever he does, that is, whatever is his occupation, however menial, he ought to get the very best out of it by doing it thoroughly. As a race, organization is the chief thing that will help us in the matter of success."

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HARTFORD RANSOM BURWELL



# WILLARD MERCER LANE

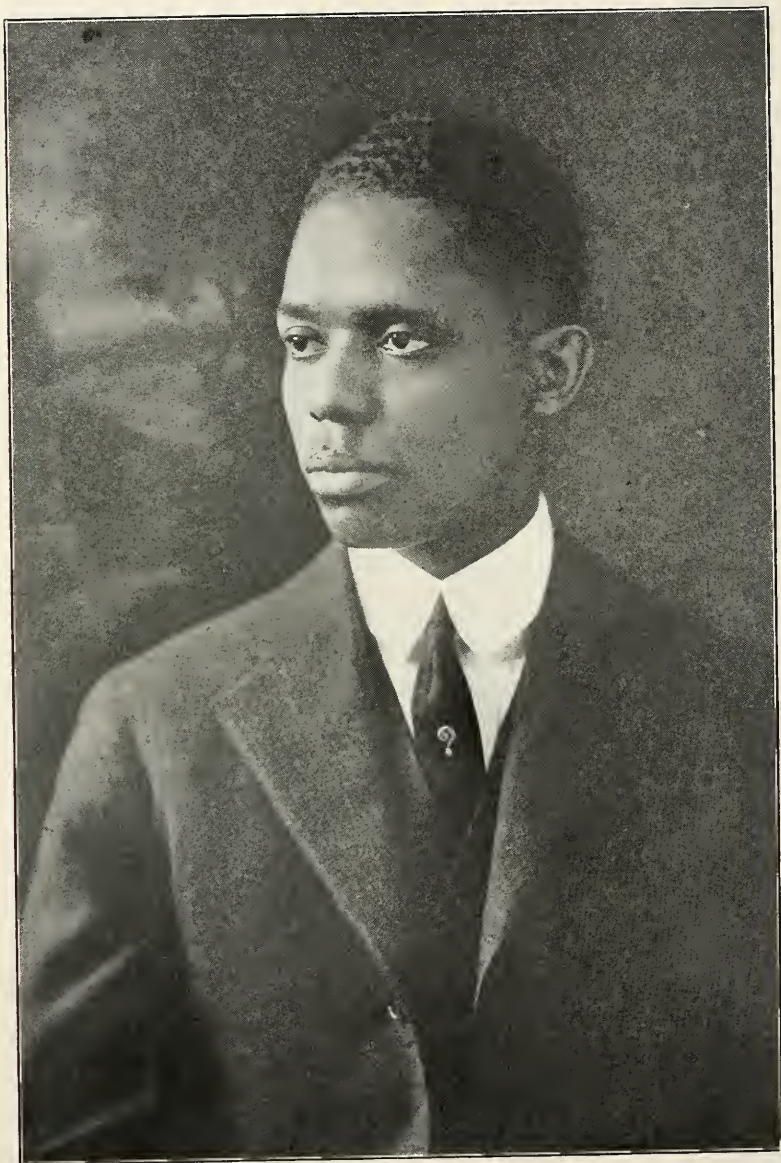
The State of North Carolina has contributed a number of professional men to the National Capital. Many of these have won distinction for themselves and have reflected credit on their native state. Among the rising young men of the medical profession who were born in North Carolina must be mentioned Dr. Willard Mercer Lane, though he has resided in Washington since childhood.

He was born at the historic old town of Raleigh on March 28, 1887. His father, Dr. David A. Lane, has for years been identified with the Pension Bureau. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Miss Harriet Wilson of Durham.

The Lanes moved to Washington in 1891 and young Lane laid the foundation of his education in the local public schools from which he passed to the high schools. When ready for college, he matriculated at Lincoln University, where he spent four years and won his A.B. degree in 1908. He passed from Lincoln to Oberlin and spent two years at that celebrated institution, winning his A.B. degree there in 1910. Again and again he was the medal winner of his class and at the end of his course won the Braddy medal for general excellence in sciences.

Having decided to enter the medical profession, he went to Leonard Medical College, remaining there for three and a half years till that school was discontinued. He finished the fourth year at University of West Tennessee at Memphis with the M.D. degree in 1914, after which he passed the Tennessee District Board in 1918. Desiring all that the best schools could give he then spent two years—junior and senior—at Howard School of Medicine completing his work there in 1916. He served as Interne at Freedmen's Hospital the following year, and began the private practice in 1917.

His standing as a student at Howard and the character of his work as a physician may be inferred from the fact that he has been Clinical Instructor at the Howard School of Medicine for three years and is on the staff at Freedman's Hospital. During the war he was commissioned First Lieutenant M.R.C. and was contract surgeon at the local camp, but was not called overseas.



WILLARD MERCER LANE

In politics, Dr. Lane is a Republican, in religion a Baptist. His secret order affiliations are with the Masons and the Odd Fellows. He is Medical Examiner for the latter. He is also a member of the Medico-Chirurgical Society, the National Medical Association, the Chi Delta Mu Greek letter medical fraternity and the Physicians Reading Club.

Dr. Lane is an accomplished musician and was organist while at Lincoln. He has a decided mechanical turn and finds recreation and amusement in making things about the house. Next after the books of his profession his favorite reading is fiction.

On June 6, 1921, Dr. Lane married Miss Edna J. Wooten of Ohio. Mrs. Lane was educated at Oberlin and at Howard and is a graduate trained nurse.

Dr. Lane has observed conditions both North and South and is of the opinion that all that is needed to facilitate the progress of the race is simply equality of opportunity. Dr. and Mrs. Lane reside at 828 7th St., N. E., Washington, D. C.

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## ISAIAH P. BROOKS

Rev. Isaiah Prophet Brooks, Bishop of the Church of Christ, has been an active Christian worker for more than half a century. Like so many other of the ministers of Washington, he is a native of Old Virginia, having been born in Hanover County in 1857. So it will be seen that he was a boy eight years of age at the close of the war. His father, John H. Brooks, was also a minister of the Gospel and was pastor of the Fifth Baptist Church, D. C. He was the son of a blacksmith and farmer in Hanover County. His name was Stape Brooks. Bishop Brooks' mother, before her marriage, was Tamer Colleen, daughter of Ezekiel and Naney Colleen. When our subject was about six years of age the family moved to Washington, where he has since resided. He went to the public schools of the city, after which he worked at his trade as a plasterer. He also attended Howard University for awhile. When he was fourteen or fifteen years of age he was converted and joined the Baptist Church. Three years later he felt called to





ISAIAH PROPHET BROOKS AND WIFE

preach and was licensed in 1885 by the Vermont Ave. Baptist Church. So it will be seen that he has been in the active ministry for more than forty years.

On November 21, 1901, he was married to Miss Mary E. Turner, daughter of Edmond and Sarah Turner of Orange County, Va.

Bishop Brooks' first pastorate was at Lakeland, Md. He also preached at Highview Park, Va., in Washington, D. C., and in Boston, Mass. In 1916 he, with others, organized or founded the Church of Christ "Which stands for industry, love, purity, and a clear conscience; one Lord, one faith, and one baptism; the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. The church is based on faith, hope and charity."

Bishop Brooks was the first Bishop of the church. The last General Conference was held in December, 1920. Bishop Brooks presides over the Third Episcopal District and is President of the General Finance and Banking Com. and of the Church Extension Board. He is also founder and president of the Ministers and Deacons Unions of D. C. and vicinity. In politics he is a Republican. He believes that the progress of the race, and of all races, depends on the adoption and the practical application of the religion of Jesus Christ.

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## QUINCY BERNARD KING

Taking all the professions into consideration, Virginia has contributed a larger number of men to the professional life of Washington City than any other State. One of the successful dentists of the city, who comes from the Old Dominion, is Dr. Quincy Bernard King. He is a native of the prosperous old town of Suffolk, where he was born on October 10, 1879. Dr. King's ancestors were free people on both the paternal and maternal sides. His father, William Harrison King, was for years the trusted sexton of the Episcopal Church at Suffolk. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Eliza Copland, daughter of David and Martha Folk.

Young King laid the foundation of his education in the local public schools. Almost from boyhood, he was inspired





QUINCY BERNARD KING

by a great desire to serve his people helpfully and intelligently. The way to an education was by no means easy. Not only was he under the necessity of making his own way, but he also educated two sisters and at the same time built a home for his parents in their declining years. The secret of his success is in the fact that he was not afraid to work and that he refused to be discouraged. He did his preparatory work at that justly celebrated school, St. Paul's Academy at Lawrenceville, Va. When ready for his dental course, he matriculated at the Dental College of Howard University where he won his D.D.S. degree on May 10, 1913.

On completion of his course, Dr. King became assistant to the late Dr. W. S. Lofton of Washington, whom he succeeded in the dental business. He maintains an attractive dental office on M St., N.W., and has built up a practice of which a much older man might well be proud.

Dr. King has never been active in politics. He is a member of the Congregational Church and belongs to the Robt. T. Freeman Dental Society of D. C. He is a member of the National Medical Association, the Inter-State Dental Association and the Mu-So-Lit. Club. He believes that education should be well rounded and should aim at the full development of all the faculties. His favorite reading consists of the American and English classics.

On May 23, 1918, Dr. King married Miss Mamie B. Simmons, daughter of Rev. Wm. H. and Josephine S. Simmons. Mrs. King's Father was at one time President of the State University of Kentucky. Dr. and Mrs. King have one child (1921), Josephine Elizabeth King.

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## LOGAN JOHNSON

Rev. Logan Johnson, who came into the ministry of the A. M. E. Zion Church more than a third of a century ago, is still in the active pastorate and resides (1921) at Washington, D. C. He is a native of Virginia, having been born in King George County on January 1, 1850. That was more than ten years before the outbreak of the war. His parents were Littleton and Virginia Johnson. His mother was a daughter

of Randall and Caroline Merritt. When the boy was about ten years of age, the family moved to Washington, and a little later the boy found his way still further North to Bridgeport, Conn., where he worked and attended the public schools. After that he was employed in the Union Metallic Cartridge Co. as a crimper, he then pursued his studies under a private tutor. Returning to Washington he attended the city graded school, from which he passed to Howard University. He was graduated from that institution in 1881 with the A.B. degree. It was while in college that he was called to preach. He had been converted as a boy of seventeen, and joined the A. M. E. Zion Church. He was admitted to the conference in 1885 at Carlisle, Pa., under the late Bishop Hood. His first appointment was to the Boney and Huntington Circuit which he served four years. While on that circuit two new houses of worship were erected and two missions organized. He went from there to Rockville, Md., where he preached for six years with marked success. Here also two new churches were built, two missions established, three hundred members were added during his stay on that circuit. His next appointment was to Mt. Pleasant, Washington, D. C., where he was retained for eleven years. During that time a modern church edifice was constructed at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars and a strong working congregation built up. At the end of that pastorate, he was promoted to the district and presided over the West Washington District for three years. In 1909, he was appointed to the work at Burrville, D. C., which he has served successful for twelve years, having built the church in which he now worships. He has always been a hard worker, and is a well-known figure in the Annual and General Conferences. He has attended six General Conferences of the connection. Among the secret orders he is identified with the Masons, Odd Fellows, and the Pythians, as well as other local orders. In politics he is a Republican. Next after the Bible, his favorite reading consists of history and biography.

In addition to his pastoral work, he is also a member of the faculty of Frelinghuysen University where he teaches Evidences of Christianity.

Our subject was married on August 12, 1880, to Miss Julia A. Williams of Washington. Of the six children born to them, four are living; they are Eva V., Margaret A., Deborah E., and Frederick N. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson is also a man of good business judgment and enterprise. He is President of the Laborer's and Mechanics Realty Co., and a stock-holder and director of the Industrial Savings Bank. During the war he was active in the drives and campaigns. He believes that the progress of the race awaits growth along material lines and the right sort of education.

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## EDWIN B. HENDERSON

Prof. Edwin Bancroft Henderson, a director of physical education in the high schools of Washington, is a native of the Capitol City, having been born at Washington November 24, 1882. His father, William Henderson, a seaman and a laborer, was the son of a Virginia slave woman, Eliza Henderson, who was sold South in Mississippi and it was there William Henderson was born about three years before the memorable siege of Vicksburg. Prof. Henderson's mother was Lula Mars, daughter of Anna Thomas, also a native of Virginia.

Growing up in Washington, young Henderson laid the foundation of his education in the public graded schools, from which he passed to the high school and the normal, graduating from the latter in 1904. This was supplemented by special work at the Harvard Summer School of Physical Training and Howard University Medical School. Lack of funds made it necessary for the young man to make his own way through school. Early in life he became possessed of a desire to serve his people in a large way, especially the working classes and this motive has been uppermost in his work both as a student and as a teacher. After his graduation from the Normal in 1904 he began work in the M Street and Armstrong High Schools. The satisfactory character of his work may be inferred from the fact that he is now (1921) director of physical education of boys in the high schools of the city. This important branch of modern school life was unknown in the public schools a generation ago. As the work progressed, Prof. Henderson organized the Public Schools Athletic League in Washington and the Interseholastic Athletic Association and is Secretary of the Fairfax County Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. in the organization of which he was the moving spirit.



EDWIN B. HENDERSON AND FAMILY



In politics he is inclined to Socialism, but has worked with the Republican party, especially in helping to develop registration of voters. He is an active member of the Baptist Church at Falls Church, Va., where he resides. Among the secret orders he belongs to the Masons and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. He is also a member of the Washington School Club. Prof. Henderson was president of the Highland Beach Community, which was incorporated under his administration and he is now a commissioner of this, the only incorporated town of colored people in Maryland.

On Christmas Day, 1910, Prof. Henderson was married to Miss Mary Ellen Meriweather, daughter of James H. and Louise Meriweather of Washington, D. C. They have two children: Edwin Meriweather and James Henry Meriweather Henderson.

He believes that the progress of the race depends upon the support of the principles advocated by the N. A. A. C. P. and by sympathetic and helpful affiliation with the cause of labor.

Naturally enough, in his reading he gives first place to the literature of his profession. After that he reads extensively works on general education and farming. He has also studied Socialism. These with current news and magazines absorb most of his leisure.

Prof. Henderson is now District Organizer of the N. A. A. C. P. for Northern Virginia.

From 1901 to 1913, Prof. Henderson edited the Official Hand Book of its Inter Scholastic Association of the middle Atlantic States and serves yet as correspondent for several newspapers.

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## ALBERT HENRY CATLETT

It is not easy for the present day youth to visualize conditions in this country at the time men like our subject were born. The date of his birth was August 8, 1853. At that time human slavery still held millions of men women and children in its cruel grasp, and they could be and were bought and sold like cattle. They were strangers to education and religion was unorganized among them. The story



ALBERT HENRY CATLETT

of Albert Henry Catlett and men of his age serves to show the meaning of one generation of freedom better than a whole book of theories. He was born a slave in Carolina County, Va., and was a boy twelve years of age at the close of the war. His farther Henry Catlett was the son of many Catlett. The mother of our subject was Celia Anderson, before her marriage. Of course, young Catlett had no schooling till the close of the war. He laid the foundation of his education at Alexandria—Later he went to an academy in Washington at Lincoln memorial for four years and from there to Wayland Seminary one year. After that he attended Howard University four years. So it will be seen that notwithstanding his rather late start, he provided himself a liberal education before he stopped.

He was converted soon after the war when a boy of fourteen or fifteen and joined the Shiloh Baptist Church at Brandy Station in Culpeper County. On coming to Washington he transferred his church membership. Even as a very young man he felt called to preach but was not licensed till 1889. In that year he was licensed by the Third Baptist Church of what the late Jas. H. Lee was pastor and later ordained to the full work of the ministry by the same church.

His first pastorate was Macedonia Baptist Church at Hillsdale which he served four years. He preached at Oakland church near the Va. Seminary for nine years and at the same time pastored the church at Hall's Hill. In 1904, he came to his present pastorate the Mt. Bethel Baptist Church which during the seventeen years of his ministry has prospered. The membership has been built up and a new house of worship is being erected. Altogether Rev. Mr. Catlett has had a fruitful ministry.

He has been married twice. His first marriage was On December 25, 1870 to Miss Lucy Pallard of Culpeper County. She bore him two children, William and Ruth Catlett. Mrs. Catlett passed to her reward in 1884. Four years later he married Mrs. Mildred Fleshman, also of Culpeper. Two children have been born to this marriage. They are Josie and Eva Catlett.

Soon after coming to Washington, Mr. Catlett secured a government appointment. That was before the day of Civil Service. He is now (1921) in the office of the Comptroller of the Treasury Department and in point of service is one of the oldest men in the department. Let no one imagine however

that he is in any way decrepit or incapacitated as he would readily pass in a crowd as a man of fifty instead of nearly seventy.

His favorite reading is along theological lines. He also likes history. In politics he is a Republican and among the secret orders holds membership in the Masons and the Odd Fellows. He also belongs to the Ministerial Conference of D. C. He believes the greatest single need of the race is the right sort of education.

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## ARTHUR W. WOMACK

The Gospel ministry has never been wanting in men of action and real ability, but it is refreshing to find a preacher of such virility that one feels instinctively that he would have succeeded in any line of work he might have undertaken. Such a man is the Rev. Arthur Walter Womack, A.B., B.D., D.D., now (1921) stationed at the Lane C.M.E. Church, Washington, D. C. Dr. Womack is a native of Halifax County, Va., where he was born on July 10, 1885. His father, Guy Womack was a farmer and a carpenter. His mother, before her marriage, was Miss Hallie Wood, daughter of Isaac and Tabbie Wood. Dr. Womack's paternal grandfather was Peter Womack.

The Womack family moved to Philadelphia during the childhood of our subject and it was there that our subject laid the foundation of his education in the public schools. He passed from the public schools to the Institute for Colored Youth, where he was prepared for college. He went South for his college course, attending both Sterling College at Greenville, S.C., and Paine College at Augusta, Ga. He won his A.B. degree at the latter institution. He took the theological course at Howard University, from which he received the B.D. degree in 1921. He also has the D.D. degree from Paine College. Dr. Womack was converted when he was only about twelve years of age and soon after that felt called to preach the Gospel. He was licensed in 1896, made Deacon in 1906 at Trinity Church, Augusta, Ga., and ordained Elder by Bishop Williams in 1911. His first appointment was to some mission work in Philadelphia at the tender age of fifteen. He

carried on that work for one year and went from there to Paine College, Augusta, Ga. After that he had a number of appointments in the South. Even from the beginning he was successful. He preached at Hodges, S. C., and repaired the church, and at Allendale, S. C., where he repaired both the church and the parsonage. He went from there to Fairfax, S. C., and remodeled the house of worship. He was pastor at Aiken, Graniteville and Kathwood, S. C., where scores of new members were added. His next appointment, which was perhaps his greatest success in the South, was at Greenville, S. C., where in a pastorate of two years he greatly reduced the indebtedness of the church and added three hundred to the membership. He was then transferred to the Washington-Philadelphia Conference and stationed at the Israel Metropolitan C. M. E. Church, which is one of the foremost appointments of the connection. Here he added one hundred to the membership and paid several hundred dollars on the church debt. From Washington he went to Bebee Chapel, Muskogee, Okla., where he built up the membership and paid almost a thousand dollars on the debt. From there he went to Liberty, at Jackson, Tenn., the mother church of the C. M. E. Connection. He was on that work for three years, and while there remodeled the parsonage, paid the debt and increased the membership three hundred.

During the World War, Dr. Womack covered Madison County, Tenn., twice in automobile, spoke to more than fifty thousand people of both races and collected thousands of dollars for the Y. M. C. A. and Red Cross Army work and organized the county into Food Conservation Clubs. In December, 1917, he entered Y. M. C. A. Army work as Secretary and saw sixteen months service at Camp Pike, Camp Holabird and Camp Meade. He was popular with the soldiers and eleven thousand signed the war roll cards promising to lead the Christian life. On returning to the ministry, the International Y. M. C. A. Secretary, Channing H. Tobias, of Washington, D. C., said, "During the late war, Rev. Womack rendered such acceptable service at Camp Pike, Camp Meade and Camp Holabird that in each case the camp officials were loathe to give him up when the time came for him to be transferred to other camps and to return to his church work."

Mr. Womack is a forceful and attractive speaker, who never fails to make himself heard. He is also a ready writer. He has written several booklets. One especially, "The Question



of Twelve Million Negroes," is a forceful presentation of colored America's point of view, which should be read by every white man in the country. He is in demand as a lecturer, evangelist and for sermons on public and anniversary occasions.

After the war, in 1919, he was appointed to his present work, the Lane C. M. E. Church at Washington, D. C. In the short time that he has been with the church, all indebtedness of more than 20 years has been paid and two hundred added to the membership, and \$4,000.00 collected for building purposes. Dr. Womack attended the General Conferences which met in 1914 at St. Louis, Mo., and in 1918 at Chicago, Ill. He is a delegate to the Ecumenical Conference at London, England, 1921.

On November 21, 1912, he was married to Miss Bertha L. Blake, daughter of Caesar and Minnie Blake of Charlotte. Mrs. Womack was educated at Livingstone College, Salisbury, N. C., and was before her marriage an accomplished teacher. They have one child, Robert Walter Womack.

Dr. Womack is a Republican in politics and among the secret orders hold membership in the Masons and the Odd Fellows. He is a member of the Commission on Evangelism of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. In his reading he puts the Bible first.

He believes the secret of progress is to be found in putting first things first and then co-operating one with the other. He is himself a living example of what that will do for a man.

His was a struggle for an education. He preached during all of his college years. Oftentimes he had to travel a hundred miles to and from his church to school every week.

His salary was very small, still he kept pushing on until he has educated himself.

He says "what I did, other young men can do if they will go at it and stay on the job."

Dr. Womack is a member of the Advisory Board of Howard University, the Geographical Society and the Association for the study of Negro Life and History.

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# M. J. D. WISEMAN

Among the rising young men of the dental profession at Washington City must be mentioned Dr. Melanchthon Joseph Daniel Wiseman.

Dr. Wiseman is a native of the Capital City, where he was born on September 20, 1897. He is the son of the beloved and distinguished Rev. Daniel E. Wiseman, D.D., a story of whose life and work appears elsewhere in this volume. What is known of the early family history is told in connection with that sketch.

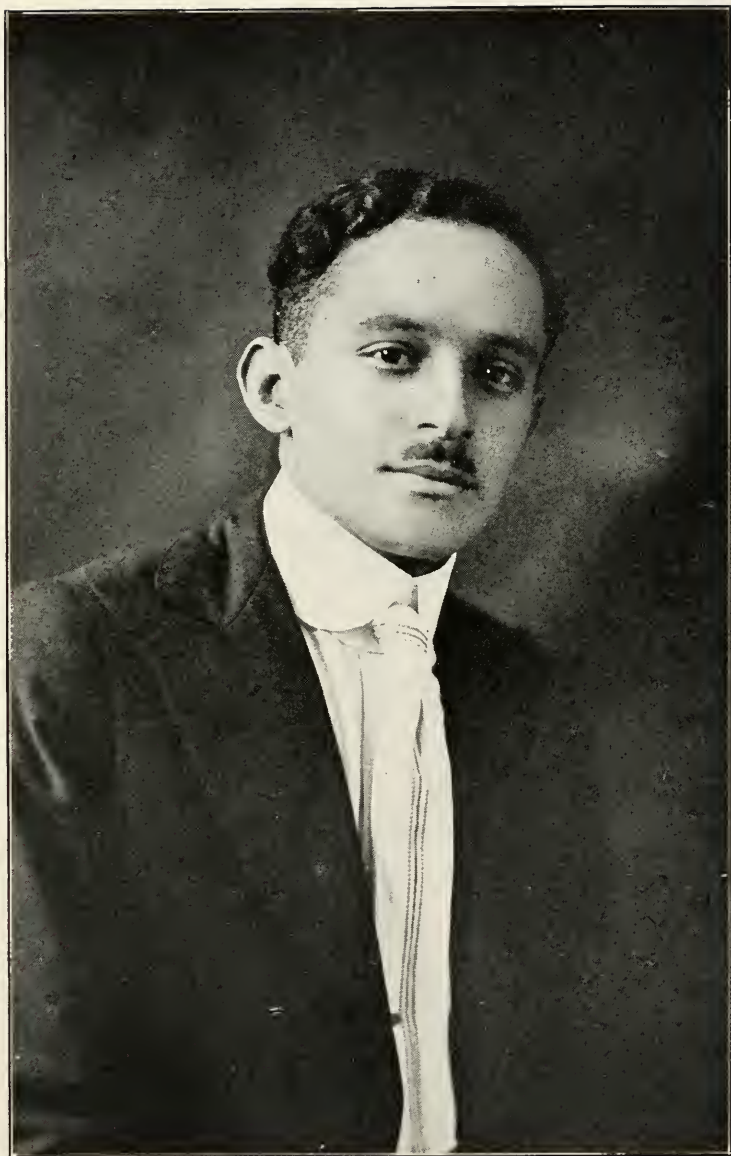
Young Wiseman grew up in Washington and laid the foundation of his education in the local graded school. From this he passed to the Armstrong Technical High School, graduating in 1915.

Having decided to take up dentistry, he matriculated at the Dental College of Howard University, where he won his D.D.S. degree in 1918. He spent his vacation periods working at the resorts and thus earned the money for the expenses of his course. While at Dental College, he was given an appointment in the Government service which he resigned to enter the army. In 1918, he was discharged from the service to practice dentistry. He opened office and operating room at 600 Third St., S. W., and has firmly established himself in the profession.

He is a member of the Robert T. Freeman and the Interstate Dental Association and among the secret orders is identified with the Masons. He belongs to the Lutheran Church and in politics is a Republican. Since 1919 he has been on the faculty of the Dental College of Howard University, being clinical demonstrator in that department. He belongs to the Armstrong High School Alumni, and to the general and medical alumni of Howard University. He believes the best interests of the race are to be promoted by "Amity between the races, more facilities for social scientific research, community work and athletics."

On December 25, 1921, Dr. Wiseman married Miss M. E. Collins, the accomplished daughter of Dr. and Mrs. A. R. Collins, of Washington, D. C.

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M. J. D. WISEMAN

# MILLARD L. BREEDING

Among the successful young men of the C. M. E. Connection in the Capital City of the nation must be mentioned Rev. Millard Leander Breeding, now (1921) pastor of the Miles Memorial C. M. E. Church of Washington. When it is recalled that he is still on the sunny side of thirty and that he has made his own way so far as education is concerned, one will have some measure of the application and the hard work with which he has filled the years. Mr. Breeding is a native of Alabama, having been born near Decatur, Ala., on December 24, 1891. His father, Millard White Breeding, was a minister and a farmer and was the son of William Breeding, a wealthy white planter, and Sophia who was of Indian extraction. So it will be seen that Rev. Mr. Breeding mingles in his veins the blood of three races. His mother, before her marriage, was Miss Mary W. Bain. She was the daughter of Henry and Sophia Bain.

As a boy, young Breeding attended the local public schools, where he laid the foundation of his education. He did his college preparatory work at Miles Memorial College, Birmingham, Ala. Later he attended Paine College, Augusta, Ga., and when a Washington appointment brought him within reach of Howard University, he continued his college and theological work at that well known institution. The fact that he was under the necessity of making his own way in school did not discourage the young man but rather inspired him to redoubled effort.

He was converted when about eleven years of age. From childhood he had felt called to preach, even before his conversion. He was admitted to the conference in 1910, at Gadsden, Ala., under Bishop G. W. Stewart. His first sermon was preached July 10, 1910. His first appointment was to Parker Springs, Ala., near Birmingham. He also preached at Birmingham and at Sayre, Ala. While on this work he was studying at Miles Memorial College. From Alabama, he was transferred to Allendale, S. C., which brought him within reach of Paine College, Augusta, Ga., one of the well known institutions of the Connection. He served that work for approximately two years when another transfer brought him to the Lane C. M. E. Church of Washington, which he served for four





MILLARD L. BREEDING



years. From Lane he was appointed to the Miles Memorial Station in 1919. He has had a fruitful ministry and has cleared several churches of debt.

On June 25, 1919, Mr. Breeding was married to Miss Elsie Alston, daughter of Robt. B. and Georgia Alston, of Washington. Mrs. Breeding was educated at Washington. They have one child, Millard Armand Breeding.

Mr. Breeding has found his chief inspiration in life in the Christianity which he preaches. The quality of his mind may be inferred from the fact that his favorite reading consists of philosophy, theology and history.

Among the secret orders he belongs to the Masons. When asked how, in his opinion the best interests of the race are to be promoted, he responded as follows: "Work, fight, pray, and in the words of Col. Roosevelt, 'Fear God and take your own part.' " To this he would add education and economic independence.

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## GEORGE O. BULLOCK

The contribution in men which North Carolina has made to the pulpit of both races and all denominations is remarkable. One of the strong men of the Baptist denomination who, after making his mark in the Old North State, went to the National Capital is Rev. George Oliver Bullock, D.D., pastor of the Third Baptist Church of Washington.

Dr. Bullock is a man of constructive ability and a large capacity for work. Being endowed with a vigorous body and a bright intellect he had the wisdom, as a young man to take the time to prepare himself for efficient service. The result has been success wherever he has gone.

Dr. Bullock was born in Vance County, N. C., on November 19, 1872. His father was Horace Bullock, a farmer, and his mother, before her marriage, was Miss Emily Jones.

Young Bullock spent the early years of his life on the farm much as other colored boys, playing, working and going to the public school. At eleven years of age he was converted and joined the Flat Creek Baptist Church. By the time he was fifteen he knew that the Lord wanted him to preach, but



GEORGE OLIVER BULLOCK

he wanted to practice law instead. It was five years before he finally surrendered and was licensed to preach by the home church when he was twenty-one.

He taught school for three years at the historic old town of Guilford College. In 1895, he was ordained to the full work of the ministry. He accepted a call from the Peoples Baptist Church, Portsmouth, N. H., which he served for five months. He became identified with the Middle Street Baptist Church, white, which assisted him in completing his education. He matriculated at Shaw University in 1895, completing the course with the A.B. degree in 1901. Later his Alma Mater conferred on him the D.D. degree. For a number of years Dr. Bullock has been a trustee of Shaw University. While in school Mr. Bullock kept up his regular pastoral work. He served the Michael Creek Church in Granville County five years. He also preached at Stovall for five years and while on that work built a new house of worship. He preached at Red Bud in Vance County two years.

After his graduation he did missionary work in North Carolina under the "plan of co-operation." This work brought him in constant touch with the denominational leaders who had already recognized his splendid ability. It also gave him a good working knowledge of the State.

Dr. Bullock has a shepherd's heart, however, and it is as a pastor that he is best known and will be longest remembered.

In 1906, he went to Charlotte as pastor of the Friendship Baptist Church which he served with great success for more than seven years. The membership grew from 150 to 350, and the church property was improved. From Charlotte he went to the First Baptist Church of Winston-Salem. Here he raised the debt with which the church was burdened, installed an organ and built up the membership from 400 to 900 during a pastorate of six years.

Dr. Bullock was a prominent figure in his denomination in North Carolina. For ten years he was Moderator of the Rowan Baptist Association, one of the great associations of the State. Before leaving the State he had been instrumental in combining the two conventions of the State and was for two years President of the larger convention thus formed. He took the lead in all religious and educational movements. When leaving the State his association presented him a hand-

some gold watch, and the State Convention added an elegant chain as a token of their esteem.

Early in 1918, Dr. Bullock accepted the pulpit of the Third Baptist Church of Washington, D. C. The situation here was enough to have disheartened a less courageous soul. The membership had dwindled to 250 and the pastor's salary was \$20.00 per month, while the work was burdened with a debt of \$12,000.00. In three years the membership has been multiplied by three and is 750. The debt has been canceled and improvements made at an expense of \$7,000.00. Incidentally the pastor's salary has advanced to \$3,000.00 per annum. In the convention year of 1921, his church led the denomination in contributions to the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention with a total of \$1,350.00. The enthusiasm of the congregation may be inferred from the fact that they presented the pastor a \$3,000.00 automobile.

On December 23, 1902, Dr. Bullock was married to Miss Rebecca S. Burgess of Warrenton, N. C. Mrs. Bullock was educated at Shiloh Institute and at Shaw University and was before her marriage an accomplished teacher. They have a fine family of six children. Their names are Partia C., Wilhelmina E., Emma F., George S., Benetta K. and William H. Bullock.

Dr. Bullock is familiar with conditions North and South, in the city and in the country. He believes the greatest single need of the race is trained leadership.

In politics he is a Republican. He belongs to the Masons and the Odd Fellows.

As an evangelist, he has had great success. More than two thousand professions have been made under his preaching. He has conducted splendid revivals at Charlotte, Greensboro, and Reidsville in North Carolina and at Rock Hill and Gethersville in South Carolina. His greatest revival, however, was at Winston-Salem, N. C. where a meeting resulted in the conversion of more than five hundred and the baptism of four hundred and fifty. This record has never been surpassed in any colored church in the State.

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# WILLIAM LEE HILL

Rev. William Lee Hill of Washington City, like so many other professional and business men of that city, is a native of Virginia. He was born in Louisa County, Va., on March 13, 1876. His father, Samuel Hill, who was a blacksmith and a farmer, was the son of James and Fannie Hill. The mother of W. L. Hill was, before her marriage, Miss Maria Pryor. She was taken to Louisa County by her master at twelve years of age and thus lost sight of her parents, which was one of the tragedies of human slavery.

Our subject was one of a family of fifteen children and being one of the younger members of the family, he had to help support his parents in their declining years. He laid the foundation of his education in the public schools of his native county. Sometimes he worked in the day and went to night school. Later, in order to help along with his expenses, he worked as a waiter.

Mr. Hill was converted when 14 years of age and joined the Bright Hope Baptist Church. He was impressed with the duty of preaching the Gospel and realized the need of better preparation for that important work. Accordingly he entered Howard University and won his diploma in the school of Theology in 1911. He was licensed to preach by the Metropolitan Baptist Church of Washington, D. C., in 1908 and ordained to the full work of the ministry by the same church in 1913.

His first pastorate was Zion Baptist Church at Forestville, Md., where he preached for six years, beginning in 1913. The house of worship was repaired and the membership grew.

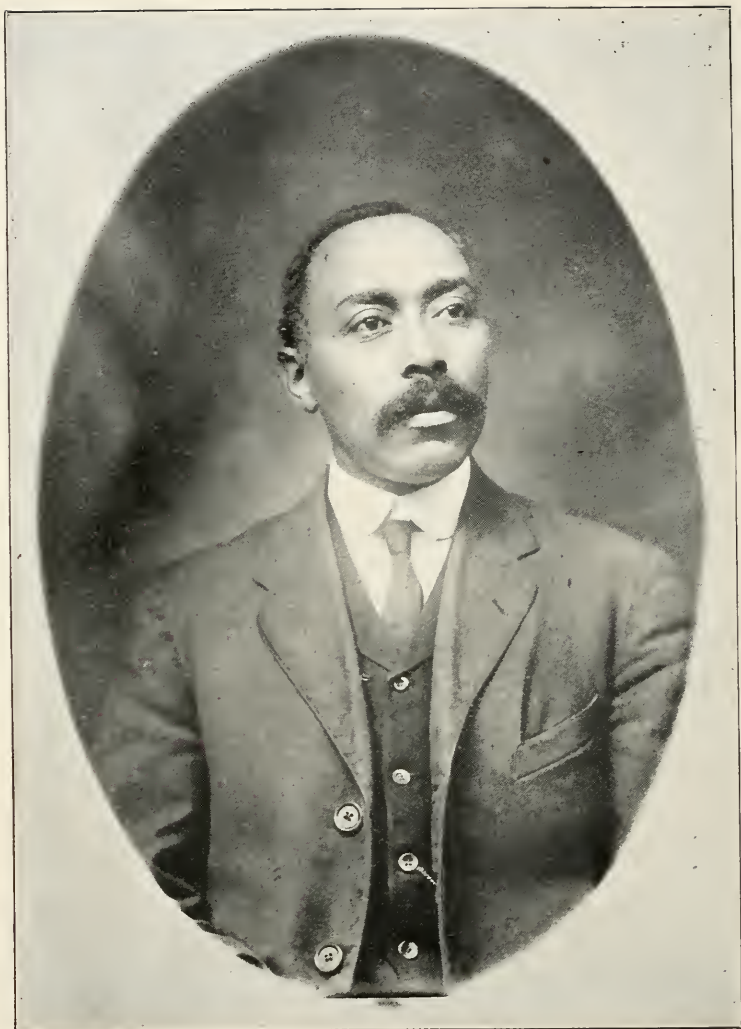
In September, 1915, he accepted the call of the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church of Herndon, Va., where he still preaches (1921). Here too considerable repairing has been done.

Mr. Hill belongs to the St. Luke's. He is also identified with the Northern Virginia Baptist Association and the Ministers' Deacons and Christian Union of Northern Virginia, being Auditor of the latter.

He went to Washington public schools before going to Howard and to private school about four years. In 1921 he organized the Bright Hope Baptist Church. He serves this two Sundays a month.

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WILLIAM LEE HILL

# JAMES REESE EUROPE

The late First Lieutenant James Reese Europe was a musical genius and a devoted lover of his country and people to whose work a brief biography can do scant justice. However, the broad view may be given and justice done to the memory of a remarkable man whose life was cut short in his early prime.

Lieutenant Europe was born in Mobile, Ala., February 20, 1884. He was a son of Henry Jefferson and Lorraine Saxon Europe. Henry Jefferson Europe was a postal clerk in Mobile and Washington, D. C. Lorraine Saxon Europe was the daughter of Armistead and Mary A. Saxon. They were free colored people of free ancestry. Mr. Saxon was a wealthy cotton sampler, who lived in Mobile, Cleveland and Chicago. He was a rigid Episcoplian, a lay reader, and often officiated in the best churches.

James R. Europe attended the grammar schools and M Street High School until the death of his father when he was sixteen and he was thrown on his own resources. He went to New York to seek his fortune. His musical ability had already developed and he sought out in New York those teachers qualified to give him the best instruction.

Beginning his career as a violinist he soon became well known and led a very strenuous and busy life. He travelled over our country as Musical Director for Cole and Johnson, also with Vernon and Irene Castle, founded the "Clef Club," organized orchestras, maintained an extensive business in supplying orchestras, bands, and players for society functions all over the North and East and part of the South, operating in and being favorably known in Boston, Newport, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Washington, Palm Beach and New Orleans.

In their palmiest days he travelled all over France as Conductor of the famous 15th New York Infantry Band. Lieutenant Europe had come to a certain conviction about music which grew out of his knowledge of the wonderful musical ability of his race. His conviction was that their "idiom" in music would become the feature of the future. He became an exponent of that idiom and out of this grew the name often



JAMES REESE EUROPE

given him of "King of the Jazz." The musical trend of the past few years gives strong support to his theory and who can tell to what extent it will color the music of the future.

He craved justice, equal opportunity for study, a hearing and recognition for his people. He became well versed in Music, French, and History. He put his whole soul into his work.

In addition to the "Clef Club" already mentioned he organized the "Clef Club Symphony Orchestra," "Europe's Society Orchestra, and "15th New York Infantry Band." Everything he promoted in a musical way enjoyed an immense popularity both in America and Europe. Upon our entry into the World War he enlisted as a volunteer in the 15th New York National Guard, passed the examinations and was commissioned First Lieutenant. At the request of Colonel Hayward he organized the famous band. The tour of France which he made with his band created a furor, and he was several times decorated by cities because of its excellence. At a contest in Paris of the five greatest bands of the Allies his band won the prize. Removed from the band, sent to the trenches and placed in charge of a Machine Gun Company, he saw a long period of fighting and was gassed. After his recovery he was restored to the band, travelled again and returned to the United States in January, 1919, and was honorably discharged from military service. He immediately started with the band on a tour of the United States and had visited New York, Philadelphia, and other Pennsylvania cities, Chicago, Indianapolis, a few Western cities and Boston when he met an untimely death at the hands of a member of his band whose performance he criticised. New York papers gave whole pages in his honor and the regiment's on their return from overseas. His public funeral was said to have been the largest attended of any ever held in New York since General Grant's. He was buried in Arlington with military honors after a beautiful service in the home church, Lincoln Temple, Washington, D. C., of which he was a member.

James Reese Europe was a musical genius of a high order, and a faithful soldier of his country.

Attempting to translate into melody the genius of his race he promoted a new school of music, and though dead at the age of thirty-five, he left his imprint on the musical world of today.

His tastes seem to have been of a healthy kind, he loved baseball and tennis, was a Mason, a Republican in politics and normal apparently in everything except music in which he was a genius and a master.

He married, January 5, 1912, Mrs. Willie A. Starks. His mother, brother and two sisters survive and reside in Washington, New York and Mobile respectively. His sister Mary L. Europe, is an accomplished teacher in the Washington schools. He served to the extent of his strength along the lines of his special gift. His talent was not buried in a napkin but greatly increased and no man can do more.

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## HARRY J. WILLIAMS

The medical profession has attracted to its ranks some of the most capable and efficient young men of the race. While in a city like Washington there are numbers from the States, it is true that an unusual percentage of the men of the race in the medical and dental professions are natives of the Capital City. One of these is Dr. Harry Johnstone Williams. His father was the late Robert Williams. His mother, before her marriage, was Miss Sarah E. Johnstone.

Dr. Williams laid the foundation of his education in the public schools of the city and passed from the grades to the high school. He was in the local postal service for several years.

Before taking his medical course Dr. Williams was graduated from the law department of Howard, having won the LL.B. and the LL.M. degrees.

When ready for his medical course, he matriculated at the School of Medicine of Howard University where he won his M.D. degree in 1903.

He began the practice in the same year in Washington where he has continued to reside.

Dr. Williams married Miss Mattie Brydie of the old University town of Athens, Ga. She was educated at Atlanta University and was before her marriage an accomplished teacher.





HARRY J. WILLIAMS

In politics Dr. Williams is a Republican, in religion a Methodist. His secret order affiliations are with the Masons. Next after his professional books, his favorite reading is history and fiction. He believes that the first essential of progress is education, after that, in fact along with that, must come, says he, money, by which he means commercial and industrial development and the accumulation of property.

It is interesting to note that Dr. Williams ascribes to his mother and to his wife the greatest influence in shaping his life.

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## MORTIMER M. HARRIS

Among the enterprising and energetic young business and professional men of Washington City must be mentioned Mortimer Melbourne Harris.

Mr. Harris is a native of Alabama, having been born in the historic old city of Montgomery on June 21, 1891. His father Charles O. Harris, was the son of Floyd and Georgia Harris. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Miss Ellen Hardaway, a daughter of J. O. and Josephine Hardaway.

Growing up in Montgomery, young Harris attended the State Normal, where he laid the foundation for his education. Though under the necessity of working his own way in college, he did not permit that to discourage him. He spent three years in college at Howard University and three years in the law department of that institution, from which he was graduated with the LL.B. degree in 1916. He was admitted to practice in the courts of the District the same year. The coming on of the war, however, diverted his attention for the time. He held a clerkship for awhile, but was later with the Bureau of Construction and Repairs in the Aircraft Division of the U. S. Navy. This service held him till the middle of February, 1919, when he resumed his law practice and entered the real estate field.

On August 22, 1914, Mr. Harris married Miss Helen C. Harris, an accomplished teacher of Washington. They have one child, Caroline Ellen Harris.



MORTIMER M. HARRIS

Mr. Harris is an Independent in politics, and a member of the Congregational Church. His reading runs largely to politics and economics. He is a member of the Board of the Mu-So-Lit Club and attorney for the Thrift Commercial Company.

He believes that the progress of the race can best be promoted by "equality" which is the fundamental word of all true democracies.

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## JOHN WILLIAM WATERS

Like so many other successful ministers of adjacent States, Rev. John William Waters is a native of Virginia. He was born at Leesburg on February 6, 1874. His father, the late John Wesley Waters, was in the itinerancy of the M. E. Church for more than forty years and was a well known figure in the connection. He was the son of Eliza Waters. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Miss Nancy Moss, daughter of Simon and Sarah Moss.

As a boy young Waters laid the foundation of his education in the public schools of upper Virginia. After that he pieced together his schooling at various places and at different institutions. He went to Morgan College, Baltimore, three years, attended the High School of Ann Arbor, Mich., for a short while and wound up with two years at Central Institute, Cleveland, Ohio. He studied theology under private tutorship.

Mr. Waters has been a Christian since boyhood, having been converted when twelve years of age. Even as a child he would go with his father into the pulpit and was looked upon as a coming preacher. As he grew up, however, he was inclined to the law, but could not escape the call to preach. He finally yielded himself fully to the divine leadership and was licensed at Cleveland, Ohio, in 1898. In 1903 he joined the Lexington Conference and was transferred to the Washington Conference in 1904.

His first appointment was at Xenia, Ohio, the seat of Wilberforce University, where he preached one year. While the



JOHN WILLIAM WATERS



congregation there was small his pastorate was a success and was marked by the payment of two thousand dollar indebtedness and good growth in the membership. His next work was at Inwood, W. Va. This was circuit work with five preaching places. A parsonage was erected during his stay on that field, two houses of worship built and another begun. The membership of the charge was doubled and the salary, which was \$125.00 when he went to it, had risen to \$900.00 when he left at the end of four years. He went from there to Lewisburg, W. Va., Trinity Station, which he served for three years. Improvements at a cost of three thousand dollars were made and 180 members added to the church. His next move carried him to the Capital City of the Old Dominion where he served the Leigh Street Station for two years. From Richmond he was sent to Waynesboro, Va., where he found the church property threatened with foreclosure on account of debt. He saved the property, renovated the church and remained on that charge for three years, going from there to the historic little mountain city of Lexington. While he remained at Lexington only one year, the work greatly prospered under his ministry. A gracious revival resulted in the addition of 140 members, while a Men's Bible Class of nearly a hundred greatly strengthened the work. A large part of the indebtedness was paid. From Lexington he went to Clarksburg, W. Va., and was on that work for three years. While there an indebtedness of \$6,000.00 was cancelled and the membership increased a hundred per cent. In 1920 he was sent to the important station of Ebenezer, at Washington City, where he has a great congregation with a membership of more than fifteen hundred.

On March 10, 1899, Mr. Waters was married to Miss Eva D. Gaines of Detroit. Mrs. Waters was educated at Ypsilanti and trained to be a seamstress.

In politics Mr. Waters is a Republican. He belongs to the Masons, the Independent American Woodmen and the True Reformers. After the Bible his favorite reading consists of history, biography, astronomy and the current news and magazine literature. He was an active volunteer worker during the war and was a "four minute man" in West Virginia.

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# MATTHEW W. CLAIR

How strange must have seemed that word of Jesus, when he taught that in his Kingdom unselfish service is the measure of true greatness! Ever and anon humble men and women who dare to take him at his word and go forth to do his work in that spirit, have found themselves exalted to places of leadership, which to the consecrated man simply means a wider field of service.

This is strikingly illustrated in the life and work of Bishop Matthew Wesley Clair, Ph.D., D.D., LL.D., now (1921) Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Liberia. He is a native of West Virginia, having been born at Union in that State about six months after the close of the war, on October 21, 1865. His father, Anthony Clair, was a cook and was the son of James and Minerva Clair. The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Ollie Green daughter of John and Mary Green.

As a boy young Clair laid the foundation of his education in the public schools of Union, and of Charleston, W. Va. Early in life he became imbued with the idea of being of service in the world, and then came the realization that efficient service required adequate preparation a fact too often overlooked by many young men in their enthusiasm. The way was not easy. Poor health added to the hardships of the struggle. His parents were in no position to assist him, so the young man had to make his way under unusual difficulties, but he would not be denied. He went to Morgan College, Baltimore, from which he passed to Bennett College, graduating from the latter in 1889. He did his theological work at the Catholic University, finishing there in 1896. He has been signally honored by the institutions with which he has been identified and by others. He has the Ph.B. and the Ph.D. degrees from Bennett College, D.D. from Howard University and D.D. and LL.D., from Morgan College.

Bishop Clair was converted when about fourteen years of age and has for more than thirty years been active and prominent in the work of the M. E. Church. He was called to preach in 1883 and joined the Conference in 1889 at Parkersburg, W. Va., under Bishop S. M. Merrill. His first appoint-

ment was to Harper's Ferry, he labored on this historic field from 1889 to 1893. He was successful from the beginning and soon came to take his place as a leader in denominational gatherings. In 1893 he went to Staunton where he preached at the Augusta St. M.E. Church till 1896. In that year he was sent to the Ebenezer Station at Washington, D. C., which he served one year. After one year on that work he was promoted to the District and presided over the Washington District for five years. In addition to being an eloquent preacher he developed executive ability of that rare quality which makes for leadership.

After five years on the District he was assigned to Asbury at Washington, one of the great stations of the Connection, and remained on this work continuously from 1902 to 1919. Here at Asbury he had an unusual opportunity which he met in such a manner as to make him the logical man for the Bench at the 1920 General Conference. From 1919 to 1920 he was again Superintendent of the Washington District. When in 1920 the General Conference the first time in the history of the church selected a Negro Bishop, he was chosen and given Liberia as his Episcopal area. It is interesting to note that he was nominated for Bishop by Gov. Handley of Indiana. His first Conference there was held in 1921 February 2nd., Lower Buchanan, Liberia.

Just about the time he was entering the ministry, Bishop Clair married Miss Fannie M. Walker on November 12, 1889. She was the daughter of Rev. P. G. and Mary Walker. Of the five children born to them the following are living: Matthew W. Jr., Grafton E., William O., and John A. Clair.

Bishop Clair has not been active in politics. Among the secret orders, he is identified with the Masons and the Odd Fellows. He has traveled extensively in this country and abroad and is a man of unusual intelligence and splendid equipment. The quality of his intellect and the trend of his thinking may be inferred from the fact that after the Bible his favorite reading runs to History and Philosophy and that he has a natural liking for Law. He is of the opinion that the interests of the race are to be promoted by "a closer cooperation in educational and social movements as well as industrial and economical."

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MATTHEW WESLEY CLAIR





# JOHN RICHARDS

Rev. John Richards, pastor of Rehoboth Baptist Church, Washington, D. C. has lived to enjoy the fulfillment of that Scripture, which says, "Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake." Truly he has come up through many tribulations, and has won in the face of difficulties, because he has dared to trust God and go forward.

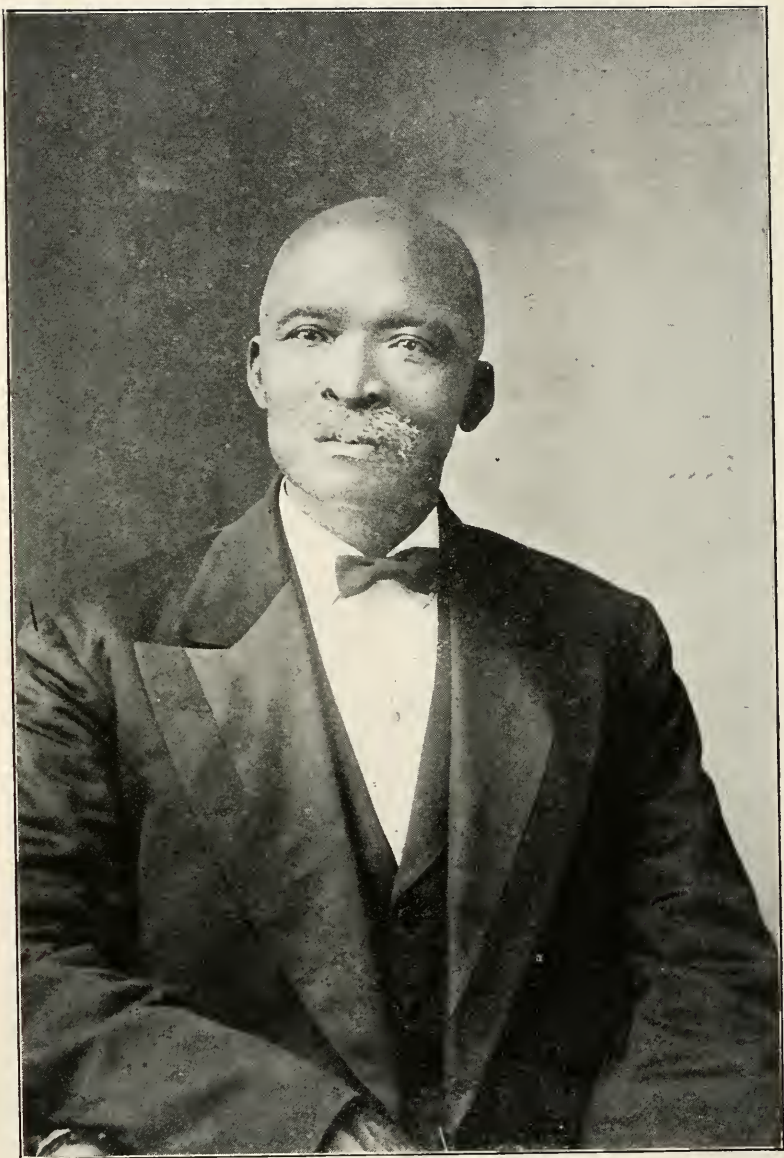
He was born in Culpeper County, Va., some years before the outbreak of the great war which freed him and his race from slavery and opened up to them new opportunities. The date of his birth cannot now be ascertained as no written records were kept. His parents were Elza and Winnie Richards.

Growing to manhood in the country on the farm he learned to do all sorts of out door work, and has been a hard worker all his life.

About ten years after the close of the war, which would be in the early seventies, he was converted and joined the Crooked Run Baptist Church, being baptized by Rev. James Garner a white minister.

On leaving Culpeper, he went to Alexandria where he worked in a Sumac mill for several years. There he had a job as a stevedore and after that a job in Brown's Shade, handling pig iron. He then took a place as head stevedore on the "Lady Lake" on which he later became fireman. From this he went on the express boat between Washington and Baltimore, very narrowly escaping death from an accident. When he came out of the hospital he went to work for a sand dealer, but soon went into the same business for himself and prospered.

About this time the Rehoboth Church lost its pastor and called Mr. Richards to supply. He was without education and the church was in bad condition in every way. He regarded this however as a call from God and like Abraham of old followed his leadership not knowing whither he went. Attendance at prayer meetings ranged from one to nine for three years and collection varied from 10 or 15 cents to 50



JOHN RICHARDS

cents on Sunday which was considered a good offering. As if that were not enough, the church divided into factions. A meeting was begun and grew to a revival with numerous additions. Pastor and people took courage, the church called for his ordination which took place the second Sunday in December 1896. He began to study and made rapid progress under Mrs. Mary Wilson. Later he went to Howard University. The church was worshipping in a dilapidated wooden structure and the pastor saw that the congregation must have a new church. This developed enthusiasm, but it also developed opposition. With the progress of the work, his friends rallied to him, but the opposition never slept. The pastor was always in the front of the fight. In six months the house was completed and the church entered upon a new period of prosperity which has lasted for years. The flame of the old faction burst out anew, however. The harder the fight made on him, the less he talked and the harder he worked. When there was no money in the Treasury to buy wine for communion or S. S. literature, the pastor bought it and went on with the services. When notes came due on the property and foreclosure was threatened, he would raise the money and go ahead. He would not retreat, he felt that he was doing God's work and that God would not desert him.

The opposition became more determined and held secret meetings in which they planned his downfall. At one time the police took a hand and stood by him. Even some of the Baptist ministers were arrayed against him, but later saw their error and became his friend.

False reports about his family relationships were circulated but went to pieces when investigated. A great cloud of witnesses faded away when asked for definite information. Then the case was carried to court and "dismissed." Like his master, when accused. "He opened not his mouth," and in the end he came out triumphant.

Gradually the smoke of battle cleared away, the pastors salary has been increased, all debts have been paid and the congregation greatly increased. Out of gratitude for his work, the church presented him an automobile which he uses largely in his pastoral work.

Rev. Mr. Richards was married to Miss Mahala Washington of Washington City. There are six living children: Willis

R., Leslie, Elzy, Harry, Lilly and Bessie Richards. Mrs. Richards has passed to her reward.

Still active and vigorous he goes about his work like a man of forty and thanks God for the work which he has been permitted to do.

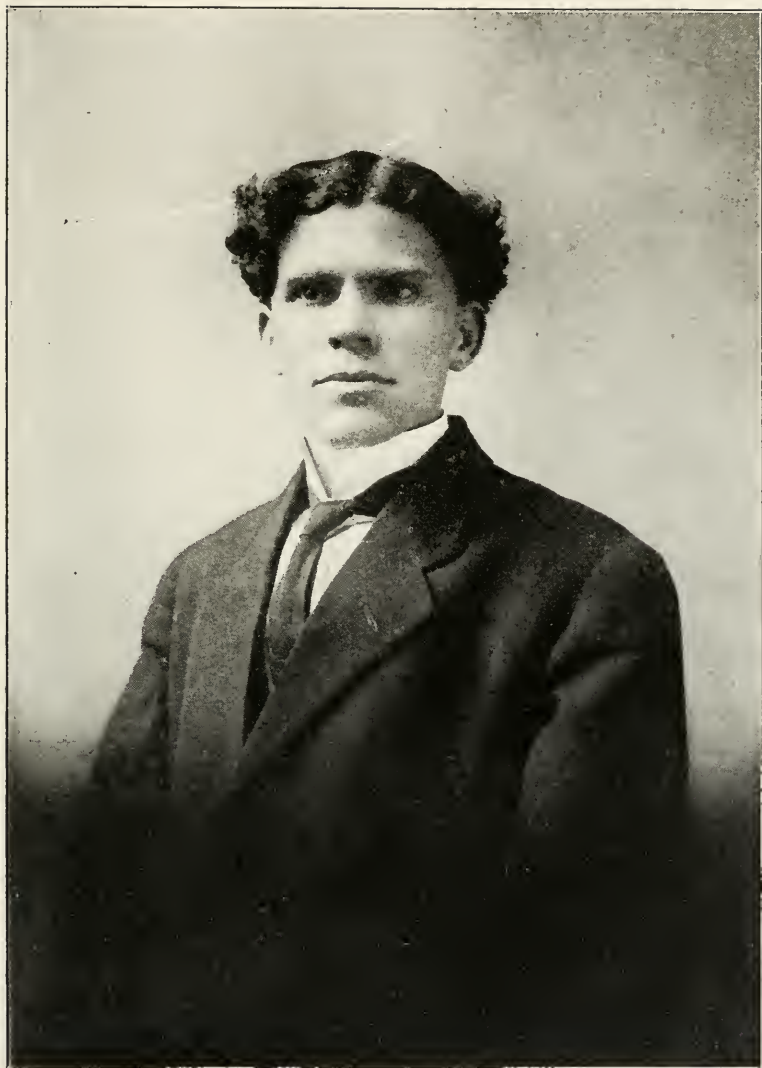
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## GUNDY THOMAS LONG

Jesus said he came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. It is the principle on which Rev. Gundy Thomas Long of the C.M.E. Connection acts. One casually meeting Mr. Long and engaging him in general conversation, would think of him as an alert business man or teacher rather than as a preacher, not because there is any lack of dignity or piety, but rather because he has had the independence to free himself from the restraints which some ministers, at least, have permitted to hamper them. He takes his place in the community as a man and asks no odds for himself or his profession. Neither in dress nor in manner does he advertise his work. He prefers to let it stand for itself, and so by his very naturalness he has come to be a sort of unique figure in the Connection.

Mr. Long is a native of Virginia, having been born in Halifax County, Va., on January 9, 1876. His father, Thomas Long, was a free man and during the war was in the Confederate service. He was a man of means, owned his home, and in addition to running a farm did a general contracting business and was a leader among the colored people of that section. His wife, the mother of our subject, was Anne Long, who still survives (1921).

As a boy young Long worked on the farm and attended the local schools. He was converted and joined the C.M.E. Church when he was about fourteen years of age. At eighteen he decided to enter the ministry and joined the Conference at South Boston, Va., in 1894, under Bishop Williams. He had the wisdom after that to take time to prepare himself for his work. He went to Paine College Augusta, Ga., for both his literary and theological courses. In 1900 he was ordained Elder and came into the active pastorate.



GUNDY THOMAS LONG



His first appointment was to Lawrenceville, Va., where he preached one year. His next work was at Lane Chapel, Washington, D. C., where he preached for six years, being the first methodist preacher to remain on a Washington appointment for that length of time. During his pastorate he built the present house of worship. He was then appointed to the Washington District over which he has presided for fourteen years. During this time the membership of the District has more than doubled and every department of the work moved forward.

On August 14, 1907, Mr. Long was married to Miss Carrie E. Edwards, daughter of John and Sarah Edwards of Washington. She enters heartily into the work of her husband. She was educated in Washington and was formerly a teacher.

Mr. Long is a prominent figure in denominational gatherings and has led the delegation at the General Conference for the fifth time. In 1911 he was a delegate to the Ecumenical Conference which met at Toronto, and has been chosen delegate to the 1921 meeting of the same Conference at London, England.

Mr. Long has a legal turn of mind and since coming to Washington has studied law at Howard. In politics he is a Republican. He is a good judge of values and his management of his own affairs as well as the business of the church shows that he has courage, initiative and judgement.

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## **WILLIAM HARRIS FOSTER**

Visitors to the Vatican Museum have been observed when they come into the presence of the statue of Apollo Belvedere to straighten themselves up to their highest and best proportions. Similarly young men through their reading and personal contacts are brought to hold themselves up to standards of conduct and ideals of character which might otherwise have escaped them. One such is Dr. William Harris Foster, a rising dentist of the Capital City. Dr. Foster is a native of Mississippi having been born at Meridian on February 21, 1892, so it will be seen that he is still (1921) on the sunny side of thirty.



WILLIAM HARRIS FOSTER

His father William Thomas Foster, a cotton sampler and classifier, was a Catholic and was a man of education. He was free born, as his people were never slaves. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Miss Alvina Lewis. She was of slave origin but was in many respects a remarkable woman. She was a protestant and was trained in the school of the American Missionary Society by the rather rigid but godly teachers sent out from New England, she imbibed their ideas and by her own extensive reading added to her knowledge. Her home was a home of books and of good influences. The children were led to aspire to the higher things in life and she cheerfully made any sacrifice necessary in order that they might be properly educated. Dr. Foster acknowledges with humble gratitude that she was the most potent factor in shaping his life.

Young Foster laid the foundation of his education at Lincoln school, which was a private institution under the auspices of the American Missionary Association, and passed through the tenth grade. From there he went to Tougaloo University Tougaloo, Miss. where he did his college work. It became necessary at one time for him to drop out for two years on account of the illness of his father in order that he might assist his mother and a brother who was in college. In 1915 he entered the Howard School of Dentistry and won his D.D.S. degree in 1918. The story of his struggle for an education cannot better be told than in his own language. He says:

"I was one of five children—four boys and one girl. It was quite a struggle for my parents to keep us in school. My father was a Catholic, well educated in Catholic Institutions. My mother, having only an elementary school education—was self educated by contact with missionaries from the North who were sent throughout the Southland by the American Missionary Association—and by much reading. The desire for knowledge was instilled in us in our childhood days. In spite of all obstacles we were kept in school—as soon as we could work—we did so in the vacation months—saving for the school months—and in this way we were all educated—each member of the family helping the other in time of need as far as possible." Completing his course May 8, 1918, Dr. Foster enlisted in the M.R.C. in June of the same year and was called to active service in August and stationed at Howard University as assistant to the Dental Surgeon which ex-

perience he found very helpful. In December he was discharged and in January 1919 was appointed clerk in the U. S. Department of Labor Statistics. In March following he was promoted Special Agent in the same department in which capacity he visited various parts of the country gathering data for the Industrial Survey of the department. In December 1919 he was licensed to practice in Maryland and in January 1920 in the District. For the first half of 1920 he was a clerk in Civil Service Commission and from June to November was with the Census Bureau. In December 1920 he begun the active practice in Washington and in less than a year has established himself in his professional work.

Dr. Foster is a Republican in politics, in religion a Congregationalist. Among the secret orders he is a Mason, Royal Arch, 32 degree Shriner. He is a member of the Robt. T. Freeman Dental Society of the D. C. and of the National Medical Association.

He is an extensive reader of general literature.

On September 22, 1920, Dr. Foster married Miss Mary Eleanor Booth, daughter of Wm. H. and Jarnie B. Booth, Washington, D. C. They have one child Wm. Harris Foster, Jr. Dr. Foster's ideas about progress shows that he has thought about the matter in no superficial way. He says it depends on "Equality of opportunity, ballot, education, wealth. Masters and authorities in any line of endeavor are recognized—and sought often be they black, red, yellow, or white. This is the solution of any problem—if there be a problem relative to the future status of the American Negro."

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## JAMES TASKER HOLMES

Some of the ablest and most faithful Baptist ministers of Washington City are natives of Virginia. One of these, Rev. James Tasker Holmes, was born and grew to manhood in the old county of Richmond. The date of his birth was October 23, 1879. His father was James Holmes, but he passed to his reward when our subject was still a boy. His mother, before her marriage, was Cecelia Spurlock.



JAMES TASKER HOLMES



Young Holmes grew up on the Richmond County farm and all his life has been a hard worker. His mother was ambitious for him and threw around him those Christian influences which started him in the right direction and were the deciding influences in his young life. At the age of sixteen he gave his heart to God and joined the New Zion Baptist Church. He laid the foundation of his education in the Virginia public schools.

Just as he was merging into mature manhood he moved to Washington where he has since resided. When he came to the city he did not, as so many do, leave his religion behind.

He transferred his church membership to Walker Memorial Baptist Church by which he was licensed to preach. In 1918 he was ordained to the full work of the ministry by the Florida Avenue Baptist Church. Feeling the need of better education he entered Howard University from which he was graduated in 1915 and was President of the theological class. He also did considerable work at private school.

On November 25, 1903 Mr. Holmes married Miss Virginia Frances of Alexandria, Va. They have one child Louise Holmes.

Rev. Mr. Holmes has done considerable evangelistic work especially in Virginia, District of Columbia and New Jersey, and has had good success. He is now (1921) pastor of the Shiloh Baptist Church in Fairfax County.

Next after the Bible his favorite lines of reading are history and biography. He belongs to the Ministers' Conference of Washington and is identified with the Masons and the Odd Fellows. In politics he is a Republican. He believes the great need of the race is a spirit of practical co-operation.

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## DANIEL E. WISEMAN

It is always refreshing to find a man whose sympathies aspirations and efforts are wider than race or color. Such a man is Rev. Daniel E. Wiseman, D.D., pastor of the Church of our Redeemer, Lutheran, Washington, D. C.

Dr. Wiseman is a native of St. Thomas, Danish West Indies—now New Virgin Island, U.S.A., where he was born on January 11, 1858 of Lutheran and Dutch Reformed parents. He



DANIEL E. WISEMAN

has been identified with Washington, however, one way or another for more than forty years—or an average generation.

His father, George A. Wiseman was the principal cabinet maker of the island in his day, his mother was, before her marriage, Miss Carolina W. Sporon.

When about 13 years of age Dr. Wiseman came to the States entering by way of New York. He laid the foundation of his education in the Brooklyn Grammar and Brooklyn Evening High Schools. When ready for college, he matriculated at Howard University, graduating from the Theological School in the spring of 1884. In 1895 the same institution conferred on him the Master of Arts degree and later still, 1908 in recognition of his work and attainments the D.D. degree. For him the way to an education was not easy, but by personal application and the assistance of friends and the Lutheran Synod of Maryland he was able to equip himself for the work of life. Being baptized in infancy and confirmed at a later date, he came into the church. Prompted by a desire to help humanity where it needs help most, he felt that for him the ministry offered the largest field for service, and was licensed to preach by the Synod of Maryland at Taneytown, Md., October, 1884, and ordained in Memorial Lutheran Church, Washington, D. C., 1886. For thirty-six years he has ministered to the congregation which he now serves. Let no one imagine, however, that his ministry of helpful service has been confined to his own congregation, for he has sought to imitate Him of whom it was said: "He went about doing good." Wherever and whenever there has been work to do, he has been found a willing helper and often as a leader and director. The cornerstone of his church was laid August 1. 1885. Since that time Dr. Wiseman has become a prominent figure in his denomination, and in addition to his preaching and stated church service, he has done a great deal of social work, the results of which can never be told in statistics nor put in figures.

Not that it is exhaustive, but merely as an indication of his activities, it may be stated that he is a member and one of the founders of the Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis in Washington, a member of the Tuesday Evening Club for the Betterment of the Poor; President Howard Park Citizens Association; Treasurer and Member of the Washing-

ton Ministerial Alliance; and President of the Parent Teacher's Association of the Lucretia Mott Public School.

On February 2, 1888, Dr. Wiseman married Miss Almira Gaskins, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Gaskins of Wellington, Virginia. They had a fine family of seven children five of whom grew to maturity. They are Luther Butler, Dr. Joseph D.M., Maceo S., Mrs. Felicia W. Overton, and Mrs. Marie Louise Evangeline Perry.

While his reading and thinking have been largely along the line of his work, he is fond of fiction, especially Dickens, and keeps abreast of the times through the current newspapers and magazines. In the summer of 1921 Dr. Wiseman spent four months in the West Indies after an absence of many years.

He has been a close observer of conditions among his people which hamper progress and is of the opinion that the thing most needed is simple justice: given that, he believes, there would be no trouble.

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## JENNIE B. BROWNE

Mrs. Jennie Beatrice Brown, Grand Secretary of the Galilean Fishermen is a native of Washington City and has resided here all her life. Her maiden name was Miss Jennie Beatrice Grayson. Her parents were Silas and Sarah Grayson, both of whom have passed away.

As a girl Mrs. Browne attended the local public and High Schools, after which she specialized in elocution at the Washington Conservatory of Music.

On April 5, 1893, she was married to Mr. Carroll Browne of Washington who is still living.

In 1901, Mrs. Browne passed the Civil Service examination and was appointed to the Treasury Department, where she now has the responsible position of counter and examiner of the paper currency as it is printed at the Bureau of Engraving and printing.

From girlhood she has been active in religious work. She is a member of the Zion Baptist Church and a teacher in the S. S. She has long been active in young people's work and





JENNIE B. BROWNE



is ex-president of the Christian Endeavor. In 1900, she was sent as a delegate to the World's Convention which met in London, England. She enjoyed the distinction of being the only colored person in the American delegation. She is also on the Board of Managers of the Y. W. C. A. and is a charter member of the Washington branch of the N. A. C. C. P.

It is perhaps in connection with her fraternal work however, that Mrs. Browne is best known. Since childhood she has been identified with the Galilean Fishermen. She passed up through various positions to that of Assistant Secretary of the Grand Lodge. Then in 1912, she was elected Grand Secretary at the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Washington, D. C. She held the position for three years. Again in 1920, she was called back to the same position at Atlantic City. She is also prominent in the work of her local Tabernacle. She organized a Washington Council of St. Lukes known as Beatrice Council, 423 and is now Degree Chief in this Council. She is a leader in the Household of Ruth, being Worthy Counsel of same. In addition to this she is Worthy Matron of the Eastern Star. So it will be seen she is a woman of varied interests and yet she seems to find time to turn her hand to every good work—religious, social or racial. Her travel and her contact with leading people have given her an opportunity to study conditions which does not come to every one. She is of the opinion that the greatest single need of the race is education. Her own favorite reading is history. During the war she took an active part in all the drives and campaigns and used her talents freely and patriotically.

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## CHARLES E. ROBINSON

Mr. Charles Edward Robinson, who is one of the successful young lawyers of Washington, is a native of the Capital City, where he was born on July 8, 1889. His father, the late Rev. Temple S. Robinson, was for years in the Baptist ministry as pastor of Mt. Jezrell Church in Washington. He was the son of Charles E. Robinson. The mother of our subject, who, before her marriage, was Miss Lucinda Elizabeth Minor, the daughter of William and Elizabeth Minor of Virginia.



CHARLES E. ROBINSON

Young Robinson had the misfortune of losing his father when he was a mere child of four. Even at that, he was the oldest of three children and while the widowed mother was ambitious for her son, it can readily be seen that it was early necessary for the boy to make his own way. The father having died intestate, it was necessary to close up the estate through the Orphans' Court and this brought the boy in contact with courts and lawyers; court procedure and the action of the lawyers appealed to his young mind and he determined, even as a child, to make a lawyer of himself.

The way was not easy, for after he had passed the eighth grade in the public schools, he had to support himself and later had to make his own way in college. He passed through the public and high schools of the city and later matriculated at Howard University for his college course, which he completed with the A.B. degree in 1913.

As a boy, and young man, there was little choice as to work. He simply did whatever offered opportunity to make money for his living and for his expenses.

As he grew to young manhood, he secured work during the summer vacations on the boat lines out of New York and found this in itself a valuable experience in addition to providing a means for the completion of his education.

After he had finished his college course at Howard, he began the Law Course, which was completed with the LL.B. degree in 1916. He was admitted to the Bar in the same year and practices in all the courts sitting in the District.

His favorite reading, after his professional books, consists of history.

Having resided in the District all his life, he is automatically disfranchised, but is in politics a Republican.

He is a member of the Episcopal Church and is a vestryman of St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

Among the secret orders he is identified with the Masons and Odd Fellows and is local attorney for a number of business corporations.

He is a member of the Washington Bar Association.

He believes that the progress and the development of the race depends upon the right sort of education and equal opportunity.

On May 7, 1913, Mr. Robinson was married to Miss Lula T. Howe, a native of Wilmington, N. C. She was educated at

St. Augustine, Raleigh, and studied music at New England Conservatory, Boston. She is an accomplished organist, and choir mistress of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, and also a teacher of music.

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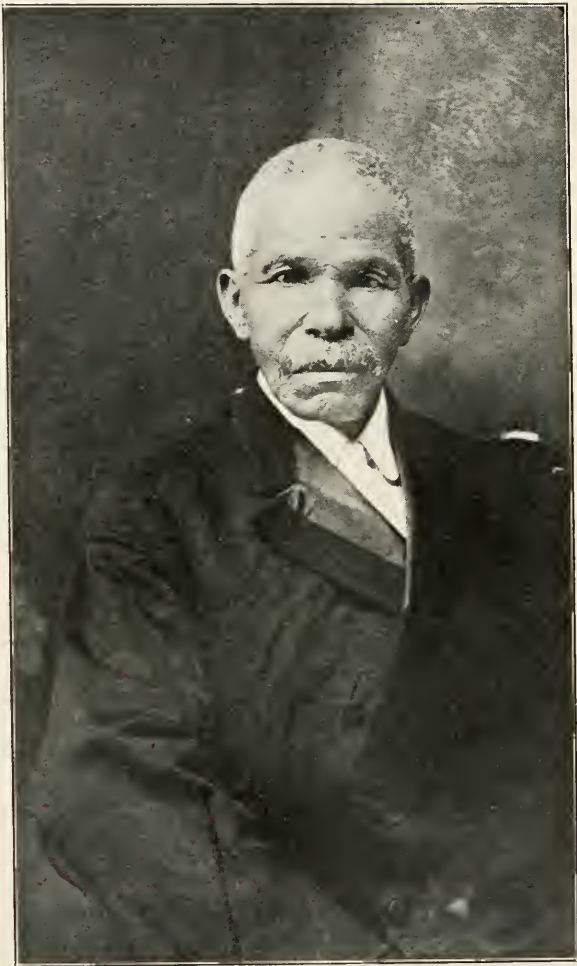
## WILLIAM J. ROBINSON

During the life time of a man like Rev. William John Robinson, pastor of the First Baptist Church, South West, of Washington, D. C., more great changes have been wrought in the history of the world than in any other period of the same length since the birth of Christ. Human slavery has been abolished, navigation and transportation have been revolutionized first by the application of steam power and then by electricity, and communication by telephone, telegraph and by wireless have reached a point little short of miraculous and men fly through the air like birds. When our subject was born at the historic old town of Fredericksburg, Va., on January 10, 1840, some of these things had not been dreamed of.

His parents were Wheeling and Patsy Robinson, both slaves. The boy was brought up as a slave on the farm and was accustomed to do all sorts of farm work. Of course, there was no schooling for him as it was against the law to teach a slave to read or write. When the war broke out and the armies came into his section of the State, he joined the Federal Army and was a soldier for two years, being orderly sergeant when he was mustered out. While in the service he did considerable campaigning with his command around Richmond and Petersburg.

Mr. Robinson was converted when a boy of eleven and joined the White Oak Baptist Church, so it will be seen that he has been a member of the church for more than seventy years.

After the war he came to Washington where he has since resided. Though already a mature man he went to school in order that he might fit himself for the work of life. He went to Howard University for nine years finally graduating at an



WILLIAM J. ROBINSON



age when most men think they are too old to go to school. He did his theological as well as his literary work at Howard. He worked as a watchman in one of the commercial houses of the city and in this way earned money for his education and for the support of his family. After coming to Washington he had married Miss Jane R. Newton. Of the nine children born to them, two are living. They are Joseph Robinson and Mrs. Sarah R. Jones.

Mr. Robinson was licensed and ordained to the ministry by the Second Baptist Church of Washington. His first pastorate was the Mt. Olive Baptist Church which he served for eleven years and erected a new house of worship. Twenty three years ago he went to the First Church, S.W., and has served it without a break since. The house of worship has been remodeled and a splendid congregation built up. He pastored the Third Baptist Church of Alexandria for a year and a half and rebuilt it while there. After taking charge of Mt. Zion, three houses were purchased, two of them were turned into a church and the other one into a parsonage, he preached there for eighteen months. Rev. Mr. Robinson was at one time President of the Ministerial Conference of Washington and has done considerable evangelistic work.

Among the fraternal orders, he is identified with the Masons the Odd Fellows and the Benevolent Society. He has been a Mason for fifty years. In politics he is a Republican. For years he has been a well known figure in associations and other denominational gatherings. As if to compensate him for his late start in life, the Lord has let him live to a ripe old age and now at 83 he is still preaching regularly. He is of the opinion that the thing which would contribute most to the progress of the race is common sense.

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## THOMAS C. SMITH

One of the real assets of any race or nation is to be found in its successful men, especially those sturdy self made men who have struggled up from poverty and obscurity to places of large usefulness and service in their chosen lines of work. Such men not only succeed themselves, but point the way by which others may win. Among this number must be men-



THOMAS CAESAR SMITH

tioned Dr. Thomas Cascar Smith one of the most successful physicians of Washington City. Dr. Smith was born at Holmville, La., on December 20, 1878. His father John Smith is a farmer and is still living (1921). He was the son of Helen Smith who lived to the remarkable age of 112. The mother of our subject was Margaret Smith.

Young Smith laid the foundation of his education in the public schools and later went to new Orleans University for his literary work. When he had advanced to the point where he could secure teachers license, he began teaching and taught three terms in the public schools. From the days of his boyhood he has been ambitious and a hard worker. He has never permitted himself to be discouraged by the lack of opportunity, but has dared to go forward even when the way looked dark. He taught a private school in New Orleans for some time. Having made up his mind to enter the medical profession, he moved to Washington and secured an appointment with the Panama Canal Commission in order that he might enter Howard University. He has always had a way of putting his best into whatever he undertakes and of making friends. Transferred to other departments and increased earning capacity enabled him to do what at first seemed impracticable—enter Howard School of Medicine and keep up with his class. That he did so creditably is proven by the fact that he was elected vice president of his class in the senior year. He won his M.D. degree in 1909. In the same year he passed the West Va. Board but did not practice in that state. He had seen the advantages of Washington and decided to locate here permanently. The results have shown that he made no mistake as from the standpoint of his practice and financial standing he has surpassed many who are older in years and experience.

On December 26, 1919, Dr. Smith married Miss Birdie Cotton of Gulfport, Miss. They have two children Mathilde M. and Therrell C. Smith.

Dr. Smith is identified with numerous secret and benevolent orders, including the Masons, Odd Fellows the Pythians and Court of Calanthe. He is examiner for several of these. In politics he is a Republican, in religion a Methodist. He belongs to the Medico-Chirurgical Society and the Y. M. C. A.

As he looks back over his boyhood and youth, he realizes the potent influence which his mother exerted over him.

His long residence in the lower South, his rather extensive travel and contact with people in every section have given him an unusual opportunity to study conditions, and he believes that progress depends on knowledge and on arousing the latent energies of the youth of the race, which is only another way of saying "the right sort of education." Dr. Smith is one of the substantial men of the race in Washington and in addition to his professional work is a member of the Board of Directors of the Industrial Savings Bank, also Treasurer of the Universal Coal Co.

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## JAMES THOMAS HARVEY

Though starting in the ministry rather late in life, Rev. James Thomas Harvey, pastor of the Gethsemane Baptist Church of Washington City has made a worthy record and the congregation at his church is evidence of his zeal and consecration.

He was born and reared in Virginia. He was converted in King George County, Va., on August 15, 1873, and it was there he went to school and grew to manhood. His father, John Harvey, was a farmer and was the son of James and Judy Harvey. The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Ellen Payne. She was the daughter of Robert and Priscilla Payne. The boy grew up on the farm and learned to do all sorts of farm work.

When a young man about eighteen he was converted and joined the Salem Baptist Church. Immediately after his conversion, he felt called to preach the Gospel, but instead of being guided by the Divine leadership went off to public work, such as railroading, the blast furnace and building, so it will be seen that in shunning the ministry, he was not looking for an easy job.

On December 13, 1894, Mr. Harvey was married to Lucelia Tate of Richmond County, Virginia. They have two children Luetta and Beatrice Harvey.

Having moved to Washington City, Mr. Harvey transferred his church membership to the Mt. Airy Baptist Church where he became active in the work. On April 2, 1913, he was or-



JAMES THOMAS HARVEY



daigned to the full work of the ministry by that church. Since entering the ministry he has pursued his theological studies through correspondence courses. His sole pastorate has been the Gethsemane Church where he began work as early as 1912. Beginning in a small way, he organized that church which has grown rapidly under his administration, till now he has a congregation of about six hundred and negotiations are under way for the purchase of a commodious house of worship. In politics Mr. Harvey is a Republican. He belongs to the Odd Fellows, the Good Samaritans and the order of Jonavid. He is on the board of the Mt. Bethel Association and a member of the Minister's Conference. His property interests are back in the old home county of King George, Virginia. He is identified with the Eureka Insurance Company and the Prudential Bank of the District.

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## WILLIAM HENRY HILL

In the Baptist denomination there is no appointive power. Every local congregation is an independent organization and may choose its pastor from the ministry of the whole denomination. So when one finds a minister steadily rising from small beginnings to an important city pastorate it may be taken as an evidence of the hold such a man has on the people as the Baptist pastor is always elected—never appointed. One of these men whose rapid rise it is interesting to note is Rev. William Henry Hill, D.D., LL.D., pastor of the Friendship Baptist Church, Washington.

Dr. Hill is a native of Tell City, Ind. where he was born on March 3, 1884. His father, Henry Hill was a carpenter and was the son of Henry and Milly Hill. Dr. Hill's mother was Millie Ann Hill.

Growing up in Indiana, young Hill laid the foundation of his education in the local public and high schools, from which he passed to McKinley Memorial College for his normal course and Princeton University of Indiana. He has the D.D. and the LL.D. degrees from the latter institution. A majority of Washington pastors are from the South or of Southern



WILLIAM HENRY HILL

training, but Dr. Hill comes out of the West and brings with him many of the progressive ideas of that section.

As a boy young Hill had the advantage of being brought up in a Christian home. His parents were intelligent and were ambitious for their son. The father, though an ex-slave was a man of means and of standing in his community. When the boy was about ten years of age, he gave his heart to God and immediately after his conversion felt called to preach the Gospel. He tells how he was licensed to preach by the Tell City Baptist Church when little more than a child of eleven and was ordained to the full work of the ministry at seventeen.

His first regular pastorate was at Carlisle, Ind. Soon after going to Carlisle, he was called to Washington, Ind. He accepted the call, but continued serving the church at Carlisle. He served the Washington church two years and repaired the house of worship. During this time he resided at Washington. Under his ministry a divided Church was re-united and the young pastor won the respect and co-operation of the best people of both races.

From there he went to Patoka, Ind. for three years which he resigned to accept the call of the church at Paris, Ill. During a successful pastorate of two years at Paris, he completed the house of worship and remodeled the parsonage. From Paris he was called to the Jerusalem Baptist Church of Pittsburg which he served for two and a half years and remodeled the church. His work up to this time had been marked by many gracious revivals both in his own pastorates and in connection with his brother pastors. The evangelistic field seemed to open up an unusual opportunity at this time, so he entered that and was two years engaged in revival work at various points. At the end of two years he returned to the pastorate and accepted the call of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church at Pittsburg, East End. He labored in this field for five years. A new house of worship was erected and the membership grew notably. On February 14, 1919, he was called to the Friendship Baptist Church at the Capital City of the Nation. In two years time the work has been reorganized, the house of worship renovated and seven hundred or nearly one a day added to the membership. Such records are not accidents. They represent consecration, hard work and wise leadership.

On June 12, 1916, Dr. Hill was married to Miss Lelia Davis of Pittsburg.

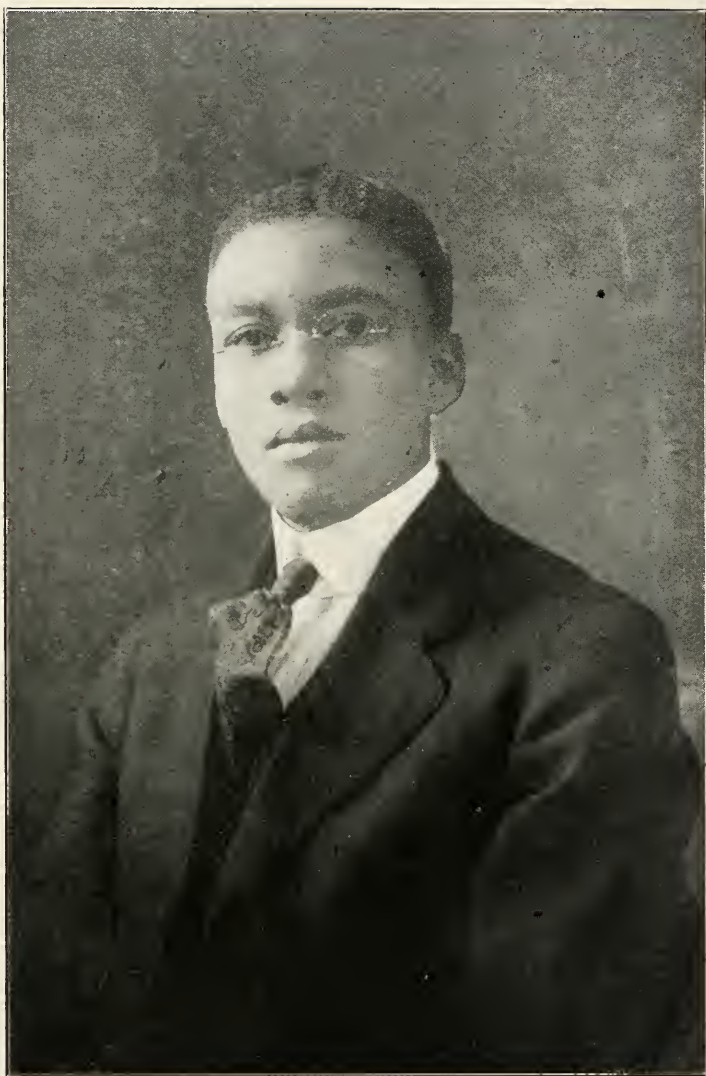
Before coming east Dr. Hill read law under Mr. J. Welford Holmes, and while in Paris, Ill., did special theological work under Dr. Hageman. He also studied commercial law, insurance and real estate. As a member of the Minister's Conference which was a mixed body, he took part in the work of that organization. During the gubernatorial race of 1907 he did considerable campaigning in Illinois. While at Pittsburg he attended lectures at the Western Theological Seminary. He was vice moderator of the Southern Indiana Baptist Association and in Ill. was a member of the Executive Board and of the permanent council of the Wood River Association.

All his life Dr. Hill has been and still is a student. He has accumulated a good working library. Next after the Bible, his favorite reading is biography, history and poetry. He has written numerous pamphlets on religious and race questions. In politics he is a Republican. He belongs to the Pythians and Odd Fellows and is a member of the Baptist Ministers Conference. He has had unusual opportunities to study conditions among his people and is of the opinion that the three things which will contribute most to their progress and development are religion, education and co-operation

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## WILLIAM F. MAGRUDER

There is growing up in our country a goodly number of young men of the Negro race, intelligent, educated, earnest, self reliant and efficient of whom the vast majority of our countrymen are totally ignorant. Nearly every one of these men are self-made in the sense that they have had to struggle hard and practice much self denial in order to reach the goals they have set for themselves. These men are the fruit of the labor of the pioneer leaders of the last fifty years. Douglas, Booker Washington, Russell, Kelly Miller, Emmett Scott, Dubois, Morton and a host of other pioneers and teachers are justified of their children. This younger generation, already



WILLIAM FRANCIS MAGRUDER



making their mark, are not only the fruit of the pioneer laborers but are also the seed from which will come the next generation and in largely increased numbers of men of a calibre that will achieve for them positions of respect and influence, and in whom the country will be able to take pride as Americans standing for everything that is best in a progressive civilization.

A fine example of this class of young and progressive men is Dr. Wm. Francis Magruder of Washington, D. C., who was born in Washington November 24, 1893, a son of William Henry and Mary Queen Magruder.

Young Magruder went through the Grammar and High Schools of Washington and then entered Dartmouth College from which he was graduated in 1915.

This takes but a sentence to tell, but it would take pages to tell of the boy's struggles. His parents died early. He worked about the college buildings, put in his vacations in the Government Printing Office and by hard labor secured the money to pay his way.

After leaving Dartmouth he entered the Medical Department of Howard University and was graduated with the M.D. degree in 1918. During the war he enlisted in the Medical Reserve Corps but was not called into active service.

In 1919 he was an interne in the Freedmen's Hospital and in 1920 entered upon the practice of his chosen profession in Washington.

Already his practice is steady and gaining in volume. He keeps fully abreast of all the latest discoveries in his profession and though doing a general practice is specially interested in gynecology.

He is a member of the visiting staff of the Freedmen's Hospital and belongs to the Medico-Chirurgical Society of the District of Columbia and Chi Delta Mu Medical Fraternity.

An unusually intelligent and well equipped man, he goes about his work quietly and efficiently, neither agitates, blusters nor cringes, asking nothing more than a man's chance. He is likely to go far in his profession and as a citizen.

Dr. Magruder is a Republican in politics and a Catholic in religion. He is affiliated with various Catholic orders.

In his reading he is partial to fiction and poetry. Kipling is a favorite. He keeps up with the current literature of the day.

To an aunt who took him in charge after the death of his parents he gratefully acknowledges a debt, for her motherly kindness and her constant effort to inspire him to strive always for the higher things of life. Now she has her reward.

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## JOHN A. LANKFORD

There are pioneers in business and in the professions as well as in the more romantic fields of exploration, discovery and civilization, nor does it require less zeal or courage to be a pioneer in the former than in the latter. One of the pioneers in the field of architecture among the colored people is John Anderson Lankford, B.S., M.S.S., LL.B., LL.M. of Washington, D. C. Mr. Lankford's work has taken him to every part of the country and there are few business men of the race more widely known than he. He is Supervising Architect of the A. M. E. Church and is known throughout the connection.

He is a native of Missouri, having been born at Potosi, Mo., on December 4, 1874. His father, Anderson Lankford, was a farmer and a miner, his mother was Naney (Johnson) Lankford. He says of them, "My parents were poor but were known throughout that section of the country in which they lived as honorable, upright and high moral people. My mother was an exceptional woman as a moral lecturer, temperance and charity worker. My father was conscientious, hardworking and reliable. Grandfather's name on my father's side was Phillip Benjamin Lankford. Grandmother's name was Jenny. They were slaves, sold from Virginia into Missouri in the late forties. My grandfather was powerful in stature and was a minister of the Gospel. He was considered a man of much ability before and after the Civil War. My grandparents on my mother's side were Missourians and of Irish descent."

Young Lankford went to the public schools of Potosi from which he passed to Lincoln Institute, now Lincoln University of Jefferson City, Mo., where he studied for seven years. It was necessary for him to make his own way and it is interest-



JOHN ANDERSON LANKFORD

ing to observe how he did it. He earned his board and lodging by serving as janitor, acting as agent for a clothing company; he made the money to pay for his clothing and paid for his laundry by acting as agent for local steam laundry. He finished Tuskegee supporting himself by work in the foundry and machine shop and as an amateur photographer. He had a special course in Architecture and Mechanical Engineering at Scranton, Pa., and specialized in Architectural designing and prospective work, under a French and German teacher. He has passed two examinations under U. S. Government as an Architect and Supervisor. Finally he studied law at Frelinghuysen University, graduating as the president of the class.

He early turned his attention to mechanical drawing and to architecture, and even from his public school days had a liking for mathematics, physics, drawing and the sciences. As an indication of the recognition that has come to him it may be said that he has taught in the A. & M. College of Alabama, Shaw University, Raleigh, N. C., Wilberforce University in Ohio, Edward Waters College, Jacksonville, Fla., and Frelinghuysen University, Washington, D. C. It would seem that the various institutions with which he has been identified have vied with each other in conferring on him degrees in recognition of his work and attainments.

It is as a practical designing and supervising architect, however, that he is best known. He has specialized in church architecture and has prepared an attractive booklet on the "Christian Art." In his own denomination the A. M. E. Church, he enjoys a distinction which has been given to no other man in the connection, that of having been elected by the General Conference Supervising Architect of the denomination and this was done because more than any other man he saw the need and the opportunity of doing something intelligent and definite in the matter of erecting houses of worship. His work has been of such character as to win for him re-election and also the hearty endorsement of the ministry and laity alike. Nor is his work as a church architect confined to his own denomination. Business men and home owners have also availed themselves of his services, so that today there are monuments to his skill in many states and cities and a growing patronage, the handling of whose business requires a regular staff and office force.

On August 4, 1901, Mr. Lankford married Miss Charlotte Josephine Upshaw, the refined and cultured grand-daughter of the late Bishop Henry M. Turner. They have one child, Nancy Josephine Lankford.

In politics Mr. Lankford is a Republican, in religion a Methodist. He belongs to the Masons, the N. A. A. C. P., the True Reformers, the Y. M. C. A. and a number of other racial and fraternal organizations. He has an extensive and valuable library. His type of mind may be inferred from the fact that his favorite reading is the Bible, Shakespeare, Milton, etc.

Speaking of racial conditions he says, "As an architect I have had the opportunity and occasion to travel and observe a great many of the states and majority of our larger cities as well as the towns and country. In the South, Middle West, North and East and also in Washington, the Capital of the Nation. I believe from what I have seen and can understand from the men and women of the race who are in a position to know, that the greatest thing the race wants and needs is an equal opportunity before the Law and a chance on and through merit to hold positions in our Government, on the railroad and public corporations and in industrial enterprises and receive the respect, that is, the same respect for our men and women as other nations and peoples of the world."

Some recent awards to Mr. Lankford include Bethel A. M. E Church of Columbia, S. C., to cost a hundred thousand dollars; Peoples Federation Bank, Charleston, S. C., to cost two hundred thousand dollars; the Chappelle Building, Allen University, Columbia, S. C., at a cost of a hundred and fifty thousand dollars. He has also designed buildings for East and West Africa.

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## WILLIAM A. TAYLOR

A religious census of Washington, and in fact of the whole country, would show a remarkable number of Baptist preachers from North Carolina. Among the prominent ministers of the National Capital who hail from the Old North State, Rev. William Andrew Taylor, A.B., D.D., pastor of the Florida Avenue Baptist Church, holds a prominent place. The story





WILLIAM ANDREW TAYLOR

of his struggle up from poverty and obscurity to a place of large usefulness in the kingdom is an appealing one. He was born in Hartford County, N. C., in the eastern part of the State on July 21, 1872. His father, Ned Taylor, died when the son was less than two years of age, so he has no memory of his father. The name of Dr. Taylor's mother, before her marriage, was Chaney Baker, who was a daughter of Chaney Robinson.

As a boy young Taylor attended the public school of Bertie County, in which county he was reared. His mother, though without education and poor in this world's goods, was ambitious for her boy and constantly kept before him her wish that he would make a man of himself. When he was about twelve years of age he was converted and joined the Cedar Landing Baptist Church. Early in life there grew up in the mind of the boy a firm desire to lift himself above the dead level of the poverty and drudgery by which he was surrounded. The fact that he was impecunious and must of necessity make his own way in school did not discourage him. At that time there was a state school conducted at Plymouth, N. C., and he entered that and was soon able to qualify as a teacher in the public schools. He taught in Perquimans, Camden and Bertie Counties. As he grew in knowledge, his ideals of service grew also. He entered Shaw University for his college course and won his A.B. degree in 1893. When about twenty-five years of age, he felt called to preach the Gospel. In 1900 he was licensed by his home church and the following year was ordained to the full work of the ministry by the same church. He did most of his theological work under private direction. The character and extent of his work, however, has been recognized and he has the B.Th. degree from the Roanoke Collegiate Institute at Elizabeth City, N. C., and the D.D. degree from the Virginia Theological Seminary and College at Lynchburg, Va. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the latter institution.

His first regular pastorate was the Antioch Baptist Church which he served for five years. After entering upon the work of the ministry he was soon preaching full time, and while engaged in country work had more than one church at a time. The church at Antioch was enlarged while he was there. His next call was to the Bethel Baptist Church which he

served two years and repaired the house of worship. He was pastor of the Corner Stone Baptist Church of Elizabeth City for two years and went from there to the Sycamore Hill Baptist Church of Greenville, N. C., which he served for seven years with success and greatly endeared himself to the people of that congregation. He resigned that work to accept a call to the First Baptist Church, Newport News, Va., which he served for four years. In 1913, he accepted the call of the Florida Avenue Baptist Church of Washington which has greatly prospered under his administration. The membership has grown from four hundred and fifty to about twelve hundred. The entire indebtedness of the church, amounting at one time to thirty thousand dollars, has been paid.

Dr. Taylor has made for himself a prominent place in the organization of the denomination. He is on the Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention, member of the Executive Board of the Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention, member of the Executive Board of the Mt. Bethel Baptist Association and a member of the Baptist Ministers Conference of the District of Columbia. He is also a member of the Board of Roanoke Collegiate Institute of Elizabeth City, N. C.

Dr. Taylor was for eight years Principal of the Hertford Academy, Hertford, N. C., and when he went to Greenville, became Principal of the Tar River Institute at that place. He is a member of the Board of Managers New England Baptist Convention.

On October 12, 1894, Dr. Taylor was married to Miss Roberta Fortune of Perquimans County, N. C. Of the six children born to them five are living. They are William, now a practicing dentist at Greenville, N. C., Clinton, Julian, Robert and Person Taylor. One child, Miss Blanche Taylor, the only daughter, died at sixteen and Mrs. Taylor passed to her reward on July 1, 1920.

Dr. Taylor believes that progress must be based on character and intelligence and that these are to come through religion and education. In politics he is a republican. He belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Masons.

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# RAYMOND BELL THOMAS

It speaks well for the institutions of any city or state, when its young men, without leaving home, can equip themselves for the serious work of life. Washington is especially fortunate in this respect, for all the way from the primary grades of the public schools to the institutions of higher learning and the professional schools, she has unusual facilities for the training of her own young people, and the thousands that come to her from the rest of the country. On the other hand the highest compliment that can be paid a young man is to be able to state that on completion of his education, he settled down and made a success among those who know and understand his character and ability best.

Among this class must be mentioned Dr. Raymond Bell Thomas, one of the younger of the successful dentists of Washington. Dr. Thomas was born in Washington on May 22, 1894. His father, Henry Thomas, was in the Government service, the mothers name was Mary Thomas.

As a boy young Thomas laid the foundation of his education in the public graded schools of the city from which he passed to the high school. After that he entered Howard University Dental College, where he won his D.D.S. degree in 1915. In the meantime, he had also held a position in the Government service which he had used to help himself through school.

On completion of his course in 1915; he began the practice in Washington, where he has since resided. Some idea of the character of his work as a student and as a dentist may be inferred from the fact that he teaches in his Alma Mater, being a demonstrator during the regular session and having charge of crown and bridge work during summer session, being the youngest man of the teaching force when he began. He is a member of the Robt. T. Freeman Dental Association and of the National Medical Association. In politics, Dr. Thomas is a Republican, and among the secret orders, he is identified with the Masons. He is a member of the Congregational Church. During the war he volunteered and was commissioned in the D.R.C. He is a member of the N. A. A. C. P.

On September 6, 1919. Dr. Thomas married Miss Marie Hurd of Washington. They have one child, Raymond B. Thomas, Jr.

Dr. Thomas is of the opinion that what the race needs is simply equality of opportunity.

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RAYMOND BELL THOMAS



# JAMES ADLAI COBB

Among the successful professional men of the Capital City must be mentioned James Adlai Cobb, attorney-at-law. Mr. Cobb is a native of Areadia, La., where he was born on January 29, 1876.

Young Cobb laid the foundation of his education in private school at Areadia. Later he went to Straight University at New Orleans, and passed from there to Fisk at Nashville for his preparatory work. After leaving Areadia, he made his own way, working at various things as the occasion demanded. From Fisk Mr. Cobb went to Howard University, where he won the degree of Bachelor of Pedagogy in 1900. This was followed by the law course leading finally to the LL.M. degree.

In 1901 Mr. Cobb was admitted to practice in the courts of the District and did a successful general practice for half a dozen years. The character of his work at the bar was such as to win for him the unqualified endorsement of many of the best men of both races.

In 1907 he was appointed to the position of Special Assistant to the Attorney General of the United States by President Roosevelt. The man and the opportunity were fairly met—the best opportunity of any man of his race in the District. He was assigned to the cases arising under what was then the new Pure Food Law. He also handled Naturalization Bond Cases and Internal Revenue Cases. Much of his work, especially in connection with the Pure Food Laws, was pioneer work. The printed reports of his office show the variety and volume of his work, and the fact that he was retained in the position till 1915 should be sufficient evidence that the character of his work was satisfactory to those in authority. Not the least gratifying result of these years in the Government service was the associations and friendships, personal and professional, which he made. Like many another man, he found the contact with big purposeful men a liberal education in itself.

In 1915 Mr. Cobb returned to private practice. During the war he took an active part in the drives and campaigns and was one of the local Four Minute Men. He is a member of the Congregational Church and among the secret orders is identified with the Masons and the Pythians. He is also a



JAMES ADLAI COBB

member of the Sigma Pi Phi Greek letter fraternity. After his professional books, his favorite reading is History.

In 1916 Mr. Cobb was made Professorial Lecturer on Commercial Paper, Constitutional Law, and Bankruptcy at Howard University.

Mr. Cobb remembers with peculiar gratitude one of his early teachers at Straight, whose influence, apart from his own innate desire for an education, was one of the most potent of his youth.

Mr. Cobb was one of the two delegates from the District to the last National Republican Convention. He was the first man of his race to hold the position of Special Assistant to the Attorney-General, and the last, as the position was abolished.

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## ALBERT JOHN MITCHELL

Rev. Albert John Mitchell, pastor (1921) of the Mount Zion Methodist Episcopal Church of Washington, is one of the successful men of the connection. He is a native of Florida, having been born at Ocala on Oct. 25, 1876. His father, the late Rev. Robert Mitchell, was a member of the South Carolina and Florida Conferences and was for a number of years identified with the itinerancy. He was the son of Frances and Hannah Mitchell. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Susan Rivers. The story of young Mitchell's early years cannot be told better than in his own simple words. He says:

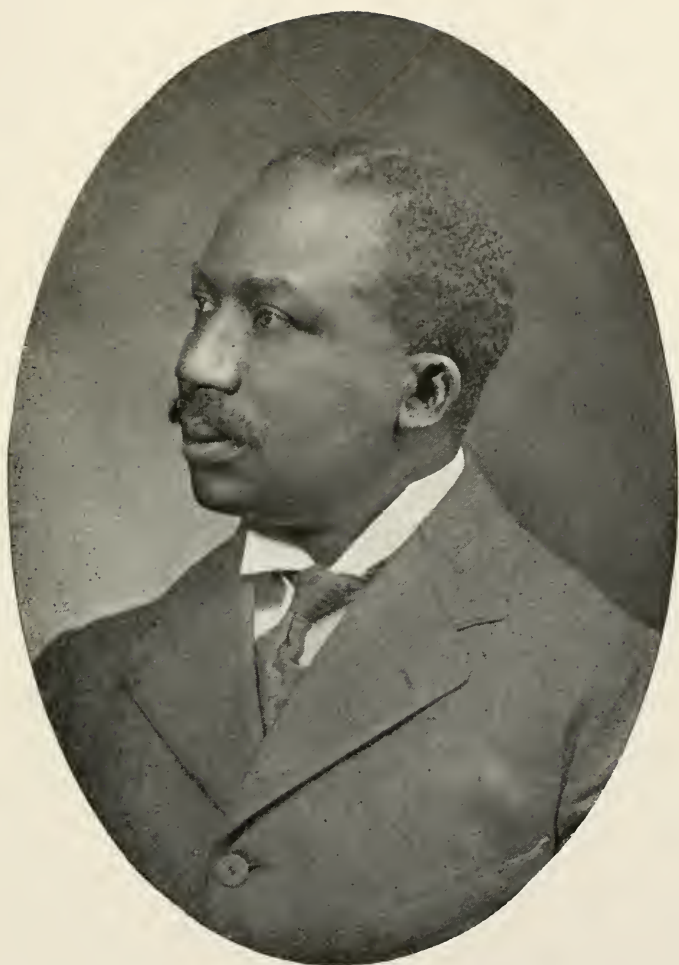
"My father died when I was six years old, leaving mother with seven small children, the oldest twelve and the youngest five weeks. I was sent to my uncle, Benj. Mitchell, who lived in DeLand, Fla., and there I went to school till I was thirteen. Leaving school at that age, I went to work to assist in paying for our home, as my mother had assumed the care of my grandmother and some of her sisters children. At an early age I went to New York, and Rhode Island, I was married at the age of twenty-one. After my marriage, I gave all of my spare time to church work. I attended the evening school in New York, that I might be better fitted

for my church work and to hold the commercial positions which I sought in New York. I entered Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Ga., fall of 1906, with my wife and an adopted son, with ninety dollars balance after paying my first months expenses. I worked my way through school, working at the hotel, selling clothes, operating a fish and produce market, and was the secretary of the So. Atlanta Drug Co. Buried both my mother and mother-in-law while in school, and left school with more money than I had when I entered, working up to five days of graduation, because I had sustained a loss through the failure of the Neal Bank, of Atlanta."

Rev. Mr. Mitchell was converted at the early age of thirteen, and called to preach at twenty. He was for years active in S. S. and other church work, including that of local preacher, before he finally and fully surrendered for work in the itinerancy. Having been voted deacon's orders by the New York Conference, he was ordained deacon in 1907 at Gammon. He joined the Washington Conference in 1908, and was appointed to the circuit of which Motley, Va., is the center. This charge included five preaching places. Under his administration various improvements were made.

From Motley he was sent to the Court Street M. E. Church at Bedford, Va., where he remained for three years and cancelled a debt of four thousand dollars. His next appointment was to Sykesville, Md., where he preached for sixteen months. He was then promoted to the Ames Memorial M. E. Church, Baltimore, to fill out an unexpired term and remained on that work for six years. He enjoyed the distinction of being the youngest man in point of service to fill that or any first grade appointment in Washington Conference. The indebtedness of the church was cancelled, numerous improvements made and the congregation strengthened in numbers and power, so that at the end of his pastorate Ames Memorial had been brought to first place in the Washington Conference financially. In June, 1920, he came to his present work, the Mt. Zion M.E. Church, Washington, formerly Georgetown, which is the oldest Colored Society in the District, and will in October of this year (1921) celebrate its one hundred and fifth anniversary.

Mr. Mitchell is much in demand not only as a preacher, but as a speaker and lecturer on racial and religious matters. He is Manager of the Religious and Educational Institute of



ALBERT JOHN MITCHELL





the Epworth League for Washington and Delaware. He is a well known figure in conferences and denominational gatherings and during the war was active as a volunteer worker in his local district and at camp.

In politics he is a Republican and among the secret orders and benevolent societies is identified with the Mason, Odd Fellows and St. Lukes. He has traveled rather extensively in the U. S. and Canada. His favorite reading, after the Bible, is along the lines of child culture and religious education. On February 11, 1898, he was married to Miss Mamie L. Jones, daughter of Wm. and Margaret Jones of Macon, Ga. They have one child, Hazel Albert Mitchell. He believes that in order to insure the permanent progress of the race, "there must be installed love of home, school and church along with deep civic pride and the promotion of business."

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## JACOB CLAY SMITH

Jacob Clay Smith, who was in the U. S. Army for twenty-eight years and who is now (1921) Supreme Representative of the Supreme Lodge of Pythians, is a native of Kentucky. He was born in Spencer County on June 25, 1857. His father was Daniel Haddox and his mother, before her marriage, Elnora Mason. Losing his father at an early age, the boy took the name of his step-father which happened to be Smith. Leaving Kentucky with the family when a mere boy of six or seven he went to Jeffersonville, Ind., and entered the school maintained at that time by the Freedmen's Bureau. He worked on the farm, later was in the rag and wool business at Rushville, Indiana for four years.

On July 3, 1883, Mr. Smith married Miss Mary Virginia Frances Vaughan of Texas.

On January 21, 1880, he enlisted in the U. S. Army and was in the service continually from then till February 17, 1908. This period included active campaigning in Cuba during the Spanish American War and three trips to the Philippines. He was commissioned 2nd Lient. Volunteers. During the campaign in Cuba his regiment was brigaded with the famous Rough Riders in the Cavalry service. At different



JACOB CLAY SMITH

times he saw service in the infantry, the cavalry, was on garrison duty and engaged in hot campaigning. He occupied the positions of 1st Lieut. 48th U. S. V. Inf., Battalion Sergeant and major Q. M. Sergeant, General Staff. It would take a book to tell all the interesting details of those years of military service at home and abroad.

On retiring from the service, he settled in Washington and was for seven years on the Park Police force. He has long been active in the work of the secret orders. Since 1877 he has been an Odd Fellow and is permanent Secretary of his local lodge. He has been a Mason since 1892, and was Deputy G. M. Military Dept., Colo. Jurisdiction. He also belongs to the Elks and is Treasurer of his lodge. He was at one time Chairman of the Board of Grand Trustees and Grand Representative of the Order. His K. P. work is well known. He joined this order in 1894 and soon rose to leadership. He is Grand Keeper of Records and Seals of the Grand Lodge and was this year (1921) at Topeka, Kans., elected Supreme Representative of the Supreme Lodge. In politics he is a Republican and in religion a Methodist.

He has traveled extensively and has had an unusual opportunity to study conditions in every part of this country and in other countries. He believes that the progress of the race depends upon education along industrial lines.

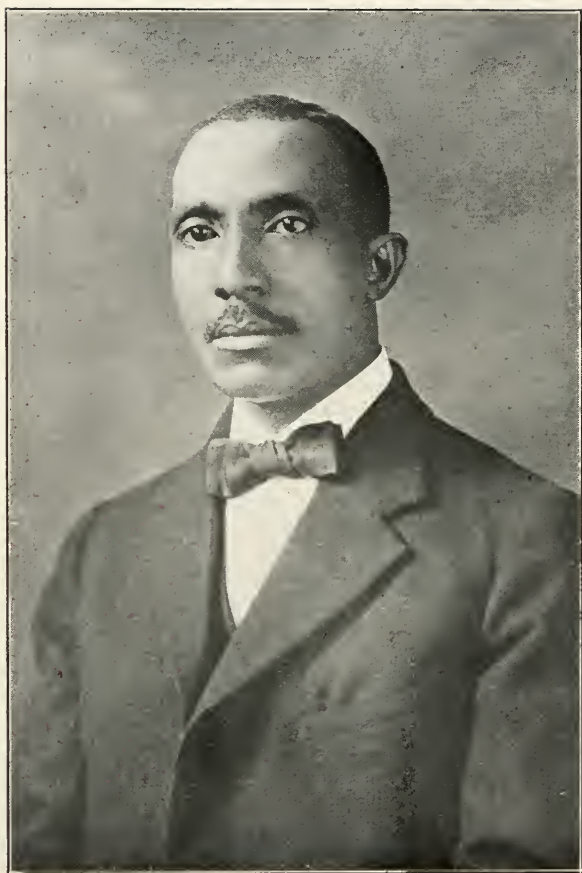
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## JAMES DAVID PAIR

Rev. James David Pair, a well known Baptist minister of Washington, D. C., is a native of North Carolina, having been born on a farm in Wake County, N. C., on August 31, 1873. His father Harmon Pair, a veteran Baptist preacher of that part of the State, was the son of Isham and Cheery Pair. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage Miss Alie Lassiter, daughter of Matilda Lassiter.

Growing up on the farm, young Pair attended the local public schools and later went to the Shiloh Normal School at Warrenton. He passed from there to Shaw University at Raleigh where he studied for four years.

He was converted at the early age of eleven and joined the Baptist Church. He grew into the activities of the church



JAMES DAVID PAIR



and Sunday School and soon made a larger place for himself in the work of the denomination. He was at one time Secretary and later President of the Wake County Sunday School Convention, and was Secretary of the N. C. Baptist State S. S. Convention for seven years.

When he was able to secure a teacher's license he began teaching in the schools of Wake County and taught there for twelve years. For two years he was traveling agent in western North Carolina for the Raleigh Gazette. That was before the day of disfranchisement, and he was active in the councils of the Republican party, serving at different times as Chairman of the Township Com., Secretary of the Republican County Convention, Registrar, and Secretary of the Fourth Congressional District Convention.

In 1905 he passed the Civil Service examination and received an appointment to the Post Office Department at Washington. He has been identified with the department for more than fifteen years and is now (1921) clerk in the office of the Fourth Asst. Post Master General.

Mr. Pair was married on December 14, 1899, to Miss Lula Thornton, daughter of Hon. M. F. Thornton of Warrenton, N. C. Their children are Clarence Q., James M., Hubert B., Lois A., Virginia M., and Harmon E. Pair.

After coming to Washington, Mr. Pair feeling that he must ultimately get into the ministry entered the theological department of Howard University from which he was graduated with the B.D. degree in 1911. This course was carried on without interrupting his regular work at the Post Office Department. In 1910 he was licensed by the Metropolitan Baptist Church, and in 1912 ordained to the full work of the ministry by the same church. His first pastorate was the St. John's Baptist Church of Arlington, Va. During his ministry a debt of three thousand dollars was cleared up, the house of worship improved and the membership nearly doubled. He resigned that work to accept the call of the Mt. Zion Church at Warrenton, Va., which he has served for three years. This work also has prospered under his ministry, both financially and numerically. He gives one Sunday morning each month to the church at Bealeton, Va., where he has a splendid country congregation of four hundred members.

Dr. Pair has won for himself a place in the denomination. He is Secretary to the Executive Board of the Northern Va.

Baptist Association, First Vice President of the Northern Va. S. S. Convention, a member of the Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention, member of the Ministerial Conference of Washington, D. C., and Moderator of the Minister's and Deacon's Union of Northern Va.

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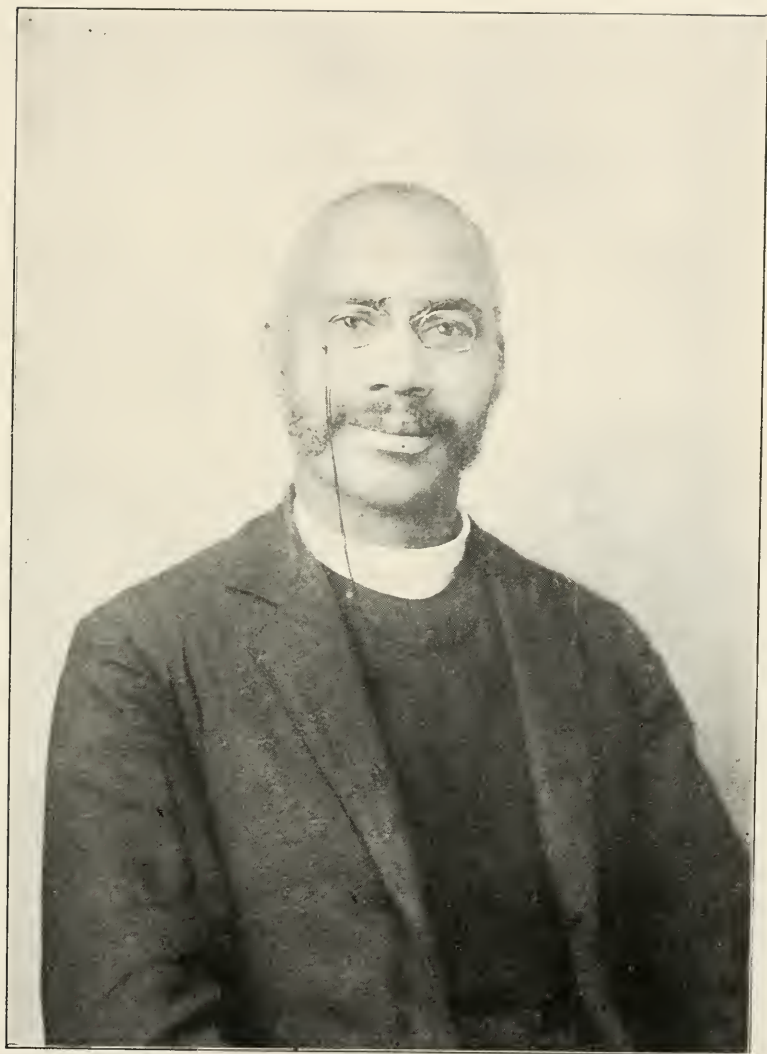
## MATTHEW W. TRAVERSE

Rev. Matthew William Traverse, D.D., who has done effective work for the Master both North and South is a native of Maryland, having been born in Baltimore on December 31, 1855. Thus it will be seen that he was a boy of ten when the war closed and brought freedom and opportunity to his race though his own family had been free for some generations. His father, John W Traverse, was a sailor and a brick maker. He must have been a man of standing and ability. He was a Christian man and a local preacher and was organizer of the fraternal orders of Good Hope and the Chaldeans. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Anna Matilda Oliver, daughter of Solomon Oliver of Talbot County, Md.

Young Traverse grew up in Baltimore and went to the public schools, from which he passed to Douglas Institute. Later he went to Morgan College in the same city, graduating in the class of 1875. Other special work was done under the direction of private teachers. In 1902 Livingston College of Salisbury, N. C. conferred on him the D.D. degree in recognition of his work and attainments. He won the encomiums of the late Bishop Turner on his historical knowledge.

Dr. Traverse was converted on October 1, 1868, a boy of thirteen, and joined the John Wesley M. E. Church. In 1875 he was licensed to preach. He joined the Savannah Conference M. E. Church at Savannah, Ga., in 1877. His first appointment was to McDonough, Ga., where he preached for two years. He went from there to South Georgia and served the church at Jesup one year, Valdosta one year, Culloden one year. He then joined the Macon, Ga., Conference of the A.M.E. church and served the church at Sandersville one year.

After that he preached at Smithville one year and closed his service in Georgia by a year's pastorate at Leary. He was



MATTHEW WILLIAM TRAVERSE

then transferred to his native state and stationed at Long Green, Md., for two years. From there he went to Catonsville, Md., one year and then to St. Paul's, Baltimore. From Baltimore he was sent to Allen's Garfield, D. C., and in 1892 to Cumberland, Md., where he erected a new house of worship worth \$30,000.00 was a member of the Charity Association. After that he preached at Hagerstown for two years and built up a fine congregation. In 1894 he was promoted to the district and presided over the Louisville, Ky., District for three years. He served the Avery Church, Memphis, one year. St. Paul, Atlanta, Ga., one year and St. Paul, Columbia, Tenn., one year. Returning again to Baltimore, he preached at Payne Memorial three years and at Annapolis three years. He then preached at St. Paul, Washington, one year and built up the congregation. Going from there to Buffalo, he preached at Vine Street one year and saved the church property at that place. His next appointment was to Coxsackie one year, from which he went to Kingston three years, Catskill one year and Loekport one year. He preached at Thomaston, Md., one year and cleared the church of debt. He preached at Elkridge, Md., five years and is now for the second time at Allen's, Garfield, D. C., where he is in his fourth year. He has been preaching the Gospel for more than 43 years of continuous service and has had a fruitful ministry. For years he has been in demand for public and anniversary sermons. It can be said of him as it was said of the Master, "The common people heard him gladly." He has attended a number of General Conferences and is a familiar figure in denominational gatherings.

On January 10, 1878, Dr. Traverse was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth Hall, daughter of Thomas A. and Deborah L. Hall. Of the eleven children born to them the following are living: Florence Virginia, Anna B. Chew, Pearl Williams, Elzenah Collins, Mamie Scott, Lewis H., Maurice W. D. and Leonard Traverse.

Dr. Traverse has always been a hard worker and is a man of good business judgment. Had he turned his attention to money getting instead of preaching, it is easy to see how he might have made a brilliant success. As it is, he owns an attractive home and has other investments in the city of Washington. He knows no short cuts to progress or success. He prescribes hard work, economy, education and religion.

He illustrates in his own life what these things will do for a man.

He is a Mason of high degree, Pythian, Odd Fellow, and Wise Man, and a member of the Equal Rights League.

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## LEROY FRAYSER

The old State of Virginia has given to the Baptist denomination a great number of successful ministers of both races. Among the colored Baptist ministers of Washington, who come from the Old Dominion, must be mentioned Rev. Leroy Frayser, pastor of the Alexander Memorial Baptist church. He is a native of Richmond where he was born on March 4, 1865, which was only a few days before the close of the great struggle which has meant so much to him and to his people. His father, Thomas Frayser was a hardworking man who followed the brick mason's trade in Richmond. He was a son of Edward and Katie Ann Frayser. The Rev. Frayser's mother, before her marriage, was Miss Mary Jane Christian daughter of Leroy and Sarah Christian all of Richmond.

Young Frayser grew up in Richmond and laid the foundation of his education in the public schools of that city. He was converted when he was twenty three years of age and the following year felt called to preach the Gospel. He then realized as he had not done before the necessity of preparation for his great life work. Accordingly he entered Richmond Theological Seminary, now Va. University, and completed his theological course there in 1904. He was licensed to preach by the Moore Street Baptist Church and was ordained to the full work of the ministry by the same church.

Mr. Frayser has been a hard worker all his life and has never been afraid to work with his own hands as well as to direct others. Before entering upon the active work of the ministry, he worked with his father and came to be a successful contractor. His first pastorate was the Third Baptist Church of South Richmond which he served for two years and built a house of worship. He went from there to the St. John's Baptist Church of North Richmond where he preached for twenty-two years. At Ginter Park Mr. Frayser built a laundry and broom factory. In 1915 he resigned the Rich-





LEROY FRAYSER



MRS. LEROY FRAYSER

mond church to accept a call from the Providence Baptist Church of Baltimore. He preached there two years and a half. He came to the work of the Alexander Memorial Baptist Church in 1918 and has a good congregation.

The conditions which prevailed during his early life coupled with the fact that he married early made it unusually hard for him to get the education he so much desired, but he has not permitted that to stand in the way of his doing excellent work in the kingdom.

Rev. Mr. Frayser has been married twice. On May 12, 1886, he was married to Miss Ella Pryor of Richmond. Mrs. Frayser died in 1915. He was married the second time on August 26, 1919 to Mrs. Hattie (Armstead) Contee daughter of Leeland and Lucinda Armstead of Washington, D. C. Mrs. Frayser is a singer, was Soprano in Galbraith A.M.E. Zion Church 27 years. She enters heartily into the work of her husband and raised in one year \$1,259.00 in his church. Of the nine children born to them the following are living: Ollie, now Mrs. Mason, Leroy, Joseph, Lottie, now Mrs. Tuck, and Zenobia Lavonia Frayser.

Mr. Frayser is a member of the Washington Minister's Conference. In politics he is a Republican and was a member of the City Central Com. of Richmond for seven years. Among the secret and benevolent orders he belongs to the Masons, the Royal Knights of King David, the Ancient Order of Moses and the Young Men's Progressive League of Washington. He believes the best interests of the race are to be promoted by union along all lines.

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## WALTER H. BROOKS

The Rev. Walter Henderson Brooks, D. D., now, and for thirty nine years past, pastor of the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church, the oldest Baptist church in Washington, is a veteran who has lived an active and strenuous life of great usefulness without fear and without reproach. He was born, under the slave regime in Richmond, Va. August 30, 1851, son of Albert Royal and Lucy Goode Brooks. His father who while a slave was allowed to hire himself became owner of a



*Yours truly,*  
*Walter H. Brooks*

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livery and hack stable, near the famous Exchange and Ballard Hotels before the Civil War. Slave records were poorly kept, and of his grandparents Dr. Brooks knows little. His paternal grandmother was twice married and died June 15, 1840. His maternal grandmother Judith Goode who later became Judith Banks also died in August, 1840.

Freedom found young Brooks in his fourteenth year. The summer of 1865 he attended his first school (Cheeseman's) in Richmond. In the fall of 1865 he entered the Wilberforce Institute at Carolina Mills, R. I., where he remained until the spring 1866, when he entered Lincoln University, Chester County, Pa., and there completed his schooling after seven years of constant labor. Of this period he says: "My whole school life was crowded into eight years; my greatest knowledge was the knowledge of my ignorance; I entered active life without pride of scholarship, but I had a hold on God and confidence in His help in all things and in all places and He has not failed me in these forty eight years and I am yet in the midst of life's work."

He graduated in 1872 with the degree of A.B., Took one year in theology and began to preach somewhat in 1873. Several years later he received the degree of A.M. His public life as such dates from May 1874, when, as a Sunday School Missionary, under appointment of the American Baptist Publication Society, he took his place among the preachers and Christian workers in the State of Virginia. He served in this capacity for three years. In May 1875 at a meeting of the Northern Baptists in Philadelphia his, "Facts from the Field," made at the request of the Publication Society, provoked such a storm of criticism that he was compelled to defend it from the floor, which he did so effectively as to convince the audience that the facts must be faced before any proper remedial measures could be devised. He swept his audience, but the newspaper reports made him enemies, white and black, in his native State. Then came an invitation to represent the American Baptist Publication Society in presenting its Sunday School and Bible work to the churches in New York and Brooklyn. But the change of attitude also soon came in Virginia and the adverse criticism became praise for his courageous presentation of actual conditions. In 1876 he was fully ordained to the work of the Gospel ministry, and in 1877, he became pastor of the Second Baptist church of Richmond, where he labored with great success until 1880.

While pastor there he attended a meeting of the white Baptists at their annual convention in Petersburg, Va. This resulted in his addressing them, and the address took the convention by storm and permanently established his position as a wise and courageous leader. The daily press and the religious press gave it wide publicity, and the young preacher became a well known man. Of this address he says, "he asked God to use him for good." His prayer was answered. On October 1, 1880, he went to New Orleans as a Sunday School Missionary for the American Baptist Publication Society and spent the next two years traveling over Louisiana in that interest. In 1881 he attended the Annual Convention of Northern Baptists at Indianapolis, where he made an address and greatly enlarged his acquaintance. November 12, 1882, he became pastor of the Nineteenth Street Baptist church of Washington, D. C., and is now (1921) completing his thirty ninth year of unbroken service, preaching to larger congregations than ever and his church is in the midst of spiritual and temporal prosperity. Again we quote him: "But to God be the glory, in that it is not by learning, but by the grace of God this work has gone forward, for He has given wisdom and understanding and has never failed in the promise, I will be with thy mouth and will teach thee what thou shalt say." The quotations we have made illustrate Dr. Brook's character. He is a man of one work. That work is the Gospel ministry. He lives close to God. He has the courage of an apostle and the wisdom which is born of love to all men. He has been highly honored, having been given the degree of D.D. by Roger Williams University, State University of Kentucky and Howard University of Washington, D. C. He has at times been a member of four fraternal societies, but finding them to conflict with his work and sometimes not in harmony with his religious convictions he retains membership in only one. The only break in his ministerial life was for a few months in 1873, when he was a clerk in the Richmond Post Office. Politically he defines his position thus, "Republican when that party is with God and the right. I am for the right with any party or no party." Of his mother's nine children, Mrs. Lucy C. Lewis, wife of George Lewis, well known Richmond lawyer is the only survivor aside from Dr. Brooks.

His brother Robert Pell Brooks, a graduate of Lincoln University (College Department) class of 1871 and graduate of

Law Department of Howard University was the first colored lawyer to practice in Richmond. He died in 1880 in his early prime.

Dr. Brooks married Miss Eva Holmes daughter of Rev. James H. and Maria Holmes of Richmond, Va. Of his marriage there are six living children; Warren Randolph Brooks of Akron, Ohio., Mrs Ottie B. Jones, wife of Dr. R. L. Jones of Charleston, W. Va., Mrs. Alberta C. Terrell, wife of William Terrell a brother of Judge Robt. Terrell; Miss Julia E. Brooks a teacher in Dunbar High School, Washington, D. C., Mrs. Antoniette A. Mitchell, Paris France, wife of Louis A. Mitchell formerly of New York and now living abroad, and Alfred Neal Dow Brooks a student.

Dr. Brooks having lost by death his first wife June 12, 1912, was married to Mrs. Florence H. Swann, of Washington, D. C. November 27, 1915.

Dr. Brooks has travelled widely in our country and in England, Scotland, and France. He has a good library of which he says, "I consult books for specific information, but aside from my Bible do little reading." He is now and has been constantly careful of his health and is consequently a young man though nearly up to the biblical three score and ten.

Of the greatest factor in shaping his life we quote his own words: "Sympathy for the lowly, faith in God, absolute confidence in the ability of the darker race to rise to any station attainable by man," As to outside interests, Dr. Brooks has only touched those things which contribute to greater righteousness among men. For seven years he was Chaplain of the Anti Saloon League of the District of Columbia, one of the oldest anti-liquor societies in our country. That body sent him as a delegate to the National Convention of 1895, which organized the American Anti-Saloon League, which has proved such a mighty factor in the war on the liquor traffic and is yet stoutly fighting for law enforcement. Dr. Brooks is a member of the Executive Committee of the League in the District of Columbia and has been honored with a place on the Executive Committee of the National Temperance Council. He served for a time as trustee of the Manassas, Va., Industrial School which was planted by a member of his church with Dr. Brooks advice and assistance. He is a trustee of the National Training School for Women and Girls of Washington,

D. C., of which Miss Nancy H. Burrough is founder and President. Miss Burroughs is a product of Dr. Brook's pastorate. In conjunction with the Rev. Messrs Jarvis and Howard he is a trustee of the Stoddard Baptist (Old folks) Home of Washington, opened nearly twenty five years ago under Mrs. Laura Queen, manager and agent, another member of Dr. Brook's church, baptized and instructed by him. He is a trustee of the Lynchburg, Va. Seminary and College, having been actively interested in that institution from its beginning. He was at one time a trustee of the United Society of Christian Endeavor and helped in a great work, but as it aroused some feeling of jealousy among his own people he retired and suggested Dr. W. T. Johnson Richmond as his successor as he was in a different environment. He is the author of a splendid Anti-Saloon League Hymn to the tune of "America," which is noble in diction and spirit.

Forty-eight years of devoted, unselfish service. Those who know this fine old Christian soldier pray for him many more years of fruitful effective service for the King.

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## F. R. KILLINGSWORTH

The Old County of Fairfield in S. C. of which Winnsboro is the county seat has produced a number of men of ability. In addition to the subject of this biography the writer recalls that Dean Kelly Miller of Howard University and President McCrory of Biddle University are both natives of Fairfield County. Rev. Frank Russell Killingsworth, educator and minister, was born near Winnsboro, S. C., on November 28, 1878. His father, Rev. Frank Killingsworth, an A. M. E. Zion minister and presiding elder for 17 years, was the son of Preston G. and Julia Ann (Reese) Killingsworth. Preston Killingsworth was a merchant and teacher. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Miss Sarah R. Poole, daughter of Weston and Phoebe (Ford) Poole.

Young Killingsworth pursued his primary and elementary studies in the public schools of South Carolina, from which he passed to Livingston College, Salisbury, N. C. Later still he



FRANK RUSSELL KILLINGSWORTH



went to the State College at Orangeburg, S. C., from which he was graduated with the A.B. degree in 1907. In 1821 Livingston conferred on him the M.A. degree. The way to an education, the story of which is so simply told, was by no means easy. Some things were in his favor as he had that best of all assets the influence of a Christian home, added to this was an indomitable determination to do his part. So after all the difficulties were chiefly financial, hence as soon as he could secure a teachers license he began teaching and was in educational work one place and another for ten years. The farm always supplied a plenty of exercise during vacations. His first teaching was at the old town of York where he served as principal for four years; he went from there to his home town of Winnsboro and was principal there for three years; he was assistant principal of English at the State College one year; Vice-principal and director of the academie department of the Industrial Institute at Manassas, Va., for three years.

Mr. Killingsworth was converted when about 22 years of age and has been identified with the A. M. E. Zion connection since. He was licensed to preach in 1911 and was ordained Deacon by Bishop Alexander Watters at York, Pa., in 1914 and an Elder by Bishop J. S. Caldwell at Philadelphia in 1917. His first regular appointment under the conference was the the Hosea Church, Bowie, Md., from which he went to Lomax, A.M.E Zion Church where he is now (1921) serving the third year and where a commodious brick church is being constructed at a cost of \$35,000.00.

In politics Mr. Killingsworth is a Socialist, inclined, and among the secret orders he is identified with the Masons. On October 7, 1908, he married Miss Laura A. Penn, M.D., of Bedford County, Va., daughter of Burwell and Phoebe Penn. They have one child. Althea S. Killingsworth.

When asked how in his opinion the best interests of the race are to be promoted, his response indicated that he had given the matter more than superficial consideration, he said, "When the white people of this country learn to regard the Negro as a man and a citizen in time of peace as well as in time of war, and co-operate with the forces now at work to make the Negro physically free from peonage, mentally free from ignorance, politically free from disfranchisement, and socially free from

insult, the best interests of both races will be safeguarded and greatly promoted.”

It is interesting to note that next after the Bible Mr. Killingsworth's favorite reading runs to metaphysics, natural philosophy, geology, astronomy and kindred sciences.

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## JULIA MASON LAYTON

Mrs. Julia Mason Layton, of Washington, should write a book of reminiscences. It would be a fascinating record of busy days filled with hard work and interesting experiences as she has touched elbows with the leadership of both races.

Mrs. Layton is a native of the Old Dominion, having been born at Middleburg in Loudon County, Va. Her father, Henry A. Mason, a venerable man of 99 still survives (1921). He was the son of Elijah and Lonisa Mason. Mrs. Layton's mother was Julia Mason. She died when her daughter was six months and seven days old and so the girl was reared by her step mother. Elijah Mason's father was a Choctaw Indian. There is also a strain of white blood going back to the Mayflower.

Mrs. Layton's girlhood was spent in Loudon and Fauquier counties. The family moved to Washington in 1874 and she entered the public school and pursued her course up through the high and normal schools. After completing her course, she began teaching and has for years been interested in educational work. She taught in the primary department for fourteen months and was promoted from that work directly to the principalship, which is an interesting commentary on her record and the character of her work. She was transferred to the M. St., now the Dunbar High School, where she taught for three and a half years. She was also a substitute teacher in the high school for five years. Nor did her interest in educational matters cease when she stopped teaching. She has been a steady and consistent fighter for better schools during the succeeding years.

Mrs. Layton was in the Government service for seven years at the Government Printing Office.

On June 27, 1893, she was married to Prof. John T. Layton a director of music of recognized standing for many years. Two children were born to them, John Turner Layton, a musician and composer of New York and Alfred Mason Layton a student (1921) at Columbia University.

Mr. Layton passed away on February 16, 1916. A mere list of the offices and positions held by this remarkable woman would be a long one, touching the educational, the religious, the social, the economic, the welfare, the patriotic and the political activities of the Capital City. She was War Mother of the colored boys club under the War Community Service, and Secretary School Community Service. She has been identified with the Red Cross for nearly forty years and long before she belonged to the local unit. So when the war came she was ready, and became the secretary of 32 units and won her four stripes.

Being the widow of Civil War veteran, she is also identified with the G. A. R. She is Past Assistant National Inspector of W. R. C. of that organization. She is the only living member of the D. C. original staff W. R. C. She has attended all reunions for 36 years and is a prominent figure at these annual gatherings. Her reports are to be found in the annual proceedings. For 32 years she has been journal clerk in the State W. R. C. Mrs. Layton is Secretary of the National Memorial Association which has for its object the erection in Washington of a memorial building in honor of all the Negro soldiers in all the wars.

Since the enfranchisement of the women, Mrs. Layton has been active in politics. She is a life member of the Blaine Invincibles and President of the National Federation of Colored Womens Republican Clubs. She is the only colored woman in the District on the State Republican Committee. She is also Secretary of the Colored Women's Federation of Womens Clubs of D. C.

She is a member of the Baptist church, though her work is marked by a catholicity of spirit which knows no denomination. For many years she was active in S. S. work and in the Women's work of the church. She is Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the National Training School.

She is attached to a number of the secret orders and benevolent societies, including the Eastern Star, Household of Ruth, Knights of Pythias, Courts of Calanthe, the Order of

Tents and the Sons of Abraham and Daughters of Jerusalem.

In most of these she has held high official position. She is also connected with the St. Lukes, being a member of the executive board and past worthy deputy. She is a member of auxiliary to the American Legion. It is also interesting to note that for nearly twenty years Mrs. Layton has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Aid Association for the Blind of D. C.

She has had an unusual opportunity to study conditions in every part of the country and believes that the progress of the race is largely a matter of organization. Mrs. Layton is a woman of boundless energy and a tremendous capacity for work. She is never evasive, but direct and fearless, and that is true no matter whether she happens to be addressing a group of women gathered in a country school house or the President of the United States at the White House. She works and travels and speaks in a way that would wear out most men, yet she seems to thrive upon it, for she remains vigorous and robust and there are many who could testify that she is always ready on a moments notice to fight for the rights of her country, her race and her sex.

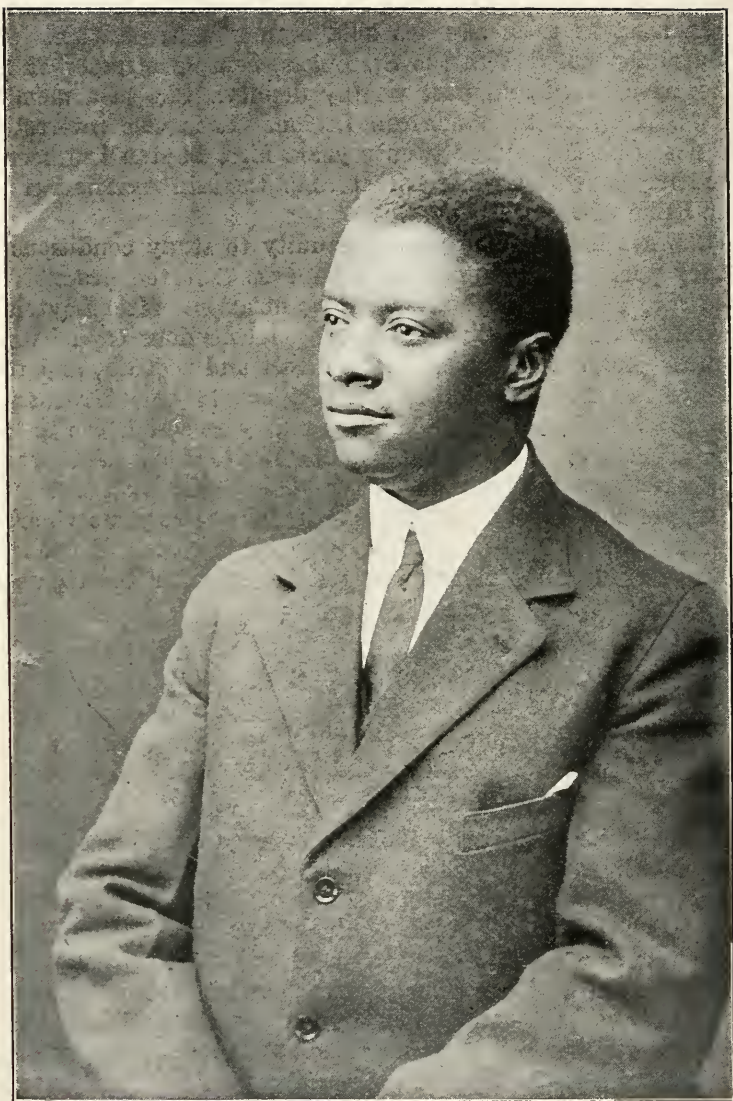
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## RICHARD D. GRIMES

Intelligence alone will not save either a man or a people, but intelligent leadership is indispensable if there is to be progress. One of the hopeful signs—and there are many—of the Colored Baptist church is the rising tide of intelligence which demands better prepared ministers than formerly. All honor in due to those pioneer preachers of the race who immediately after Emancipation went to work in the vineyard without waiting for the training of the schools, but there is little excuse in this day of opportunity for the young man in the pulpit who falls below the intelligence of the young people in the pew.

One of the enterprising and successful young Baptist preachers of the District is Rev. Richard Douglas Grimes, pastor of the Salem Baptist Church. He has spent years of study in





RICHARD DOUGLAS GRIMES



preparation for his life work and is still (1921) working out his course in theology.

He is a native of the historic old country of King George, Va., where he was born on November 11, 1886. His father Rev. John H. Grimes is a Baptist preacher also, the son of Richard and Delilah Grimes. The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Jennie Tibbs, daughter of Maria Tibbs.

Young Grimes growing up on the farm learned to do all sorts of manual labor. When of school age he went to the public school for his elementary education. Later, after moving to Washington, where he was employed in the day, he went to night school at the Garnett School. Before leaving King George, he was converted at the age of thirteen and joined the St. Stephen's Baptist Church. Later his membership was transferred to the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church which his father had organized. It was by this church that he was licensed to preach in 1917, and by it ordained to the full work of the ministry in 1918. From childhood he had felt that his work in life must be that of preaching the Gospel. He has been studying at Howard University for several years in the evening classes and is now (1921) pursuing the regular theological course.

On November 2, 1909, Mr. Grimes married Miss Susie Turley of King George County, Va. They have one child, Ruby Grimes. In September 1918, Rev. Mr. Grimes accepted the call of the Salem Baptist Church and entered upon his first pastorate. He was successful from the beginning. The church responded to his leadership and has made splendid progress under his ministry. More than six hundred members have been added to the church and a new house of worship is now in process of construction. This is in the Northwest section of the city and when completed will be worth fifty thousand dollars.

Mr. Grimes has done considerable evangelistic work in Maryland and Virginia.

Such is an outline of the story of a country boy who is succeeding because early in life he learned to put first things first.

It is characteristic of the man and his outlook on life that he finds in the Christian religion the basis for the settlement of all our problems and the principles on which real progress depends.

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# LOUIS BROWN FREEMAN

The last fifteen or twenty years have seen a large number of capable energetic men turning aside from other work to the professions. Medicine and dentistry have been favorites with many of these. It is gratifying to note their success. It indicates, first, their own ability and fitness since they have had to build practice in the face of competition that was firmly established. In the second place it indicates a willingness on the part of the colored people to patronize their own professional men when they are proficient.

One of the successful dentists of Washington is Dr. Louis Brown Freeman. He is a native of the Capital City having been born here on July 15, 1867. His father John L. Freeman was the son of John Freeman. His mother Emily Freeman was the daughter of Walter P. and Eliza Freeman.

Growing up in Washington, young Freeman attended the local public school from which he passed to the High School.

After completing his high school course, he secured employment in the general post office where he rendered faithful service for twenty years. Realizing that some other line of work in which his hard work and faithfulness would redound to his own benefit rather than to the Government, would mean more for him in the end, he had the courage and the ambition to break away from the old line, take a course in dentistry and establish himself in the practice. The fact that he has been able to do this in the midst of those who know him best is all the more to his credit. He carried his course at Howard University while still employed at the post office and won his D.D.S. degree in 1909. He then resigned and began the practice.

On April 8, 1913 Dr. Freeman was married to Miss Elizabeth Yancey of Richmond, Va. Mrs Freeman was educated in the schools of Richmond and at Hartshorn College and was before her marriage an accomplished teacher.

Dr. Freeman is a Republican in politics, though automatically disfranchised by his life long residence in the District of Columbia. He is a member of the Robert T. Freeman Dental Association and also of the National Medical Association. Having resided in Washington all his life all his interests and investments are in the Capital City.

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LOUIS BROWN FREEMAN

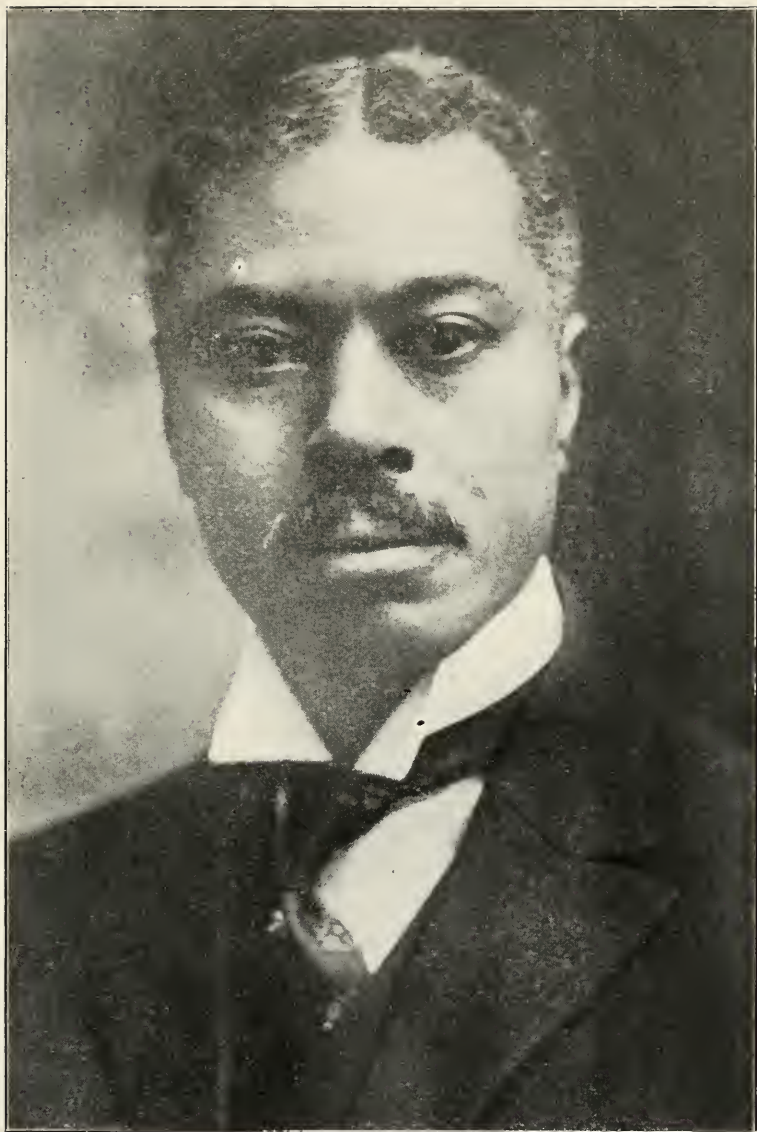
# WILLIAM E. HAMILTON

While there are not as many professional men of the race in Washington City from Texas as there are from the nearby Southern States, yet it may be truly said that those Texans who have come to the Capital City are highly esteemed for their intelligence and character. One of the native Texas men, who in his own chosen profession has made a success, is Dr. William Edwin Hamilton, who has been practicing dentistry in the city for twenty odd years. He was born at Bastrop, Bastrop County Tex., on November 9, 1868. His father, Jeremiah J. Hamilton, was the son of Worth and Elsie Hamilton. Dr. Hamilton's mother, before her marriage, was Miss Ellen Fullenlove, daughter of Grace Fullenlove.

Growing up in Texas, young Hamilton attended the local public schools from which he passed to the Tillotson Institute at Austin, Tex. When he was able to secure teacher's license he began teaching in the public schools, as it was necessary for him to make his own way in school. For a number of years he was engaged in newspaper work. From 1887 to 1888, he was business manager and compositor of the Austin Citizen. Later he was employed on the local white paper, The Daily Dispatch of Austin.

When ready to take up his course in dentistry, he matriculated at Howard University, Washington, where he won his D.D.S. degree in 1897. On the completion of his course he did not return to Texas but settled down at Washington which he recognized as a good field for work and an attractive place to live. He maintains a comfortable well equipped operating room at Anacostia and is recognized as one of the leaders of his profession in the city. He is a member of the Robt. T. Freeman Dental Association, the Interstate Dental Society and the National Medical Association. In politics he is a Republican, though residing in the District and being far removed from his native State, he has been practically disfranchised since coming to Washington. He is a member of the M.E. Church and belongs to the Masons, Pythians and the Odd Fellows.

On November 22, 1894, Dr. Hamilton was married to Mrs. Georgiana A. Sims of South Carolina. After his professional



WILLIAM EDWIN HAMILTON



reading, he finds pleasure and profit in such standard authors as Dickens. He keeps abreast of the times through the current newspapers and magazines, of which he is a constant reader. His property interests and investments are in Washington.

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## IVERSON O. MITCHELL

One of the most successful of the younger men in the dental profession in Washington City is Dr. Iverson Othello Mitchell. Dr. Mitchell is a native of the Capital City, where he was born on June 6, 1893, so it will be seen he is still on the sunny side of thirty, although he enjoys a practice of which a man of forty might well be proud. His father was the late Paul Mitchell. His mother, who still survives (1921) was, before her marriage, Miss Margaret Richards, daughter of William Richards.

Growing up in Washington, young Mitchell enjoyed the excellent advantages of the public and high schools of the city. Having lost his father when he was only twelve years of age, the boy early learned to help himself and developed that quality of self reliance and perseverance which has been the basis of his success.

When ready for his dental course, he matriculated at the dental college of Howard University and won his D.D.S. degree in 1915. The character of his work there and his standing with the institution may be inferred from the fact that he is now Demonstrator in the Dental School of Howard University. On completion of his course, he began the practice. He was in the service during the war and went overseas with the famous 92nd. He was examined and commissioned First Lieutenant in France.

Returning to America after the Armistice, he resumed the practice and maintains in the heart of the best section of the North West on W. Street up-to-date well equipped office and operating room. Here one may see an X-Ray machine and all the modern appliances which have marked the progress of the dental profession in recent years. The character of his work has brought to him a profitable clientele which keeps him constantly busy.



IVERSON OTHELLO MITCHELL.

On March 15, 1920, Dr. Mitchell married Miss Beulah Scott of Washington. Mrs Mitchell was, before he marriage, an accomplished teacher in the Washington schools. They have one child, Myra Yvonna Mitchell.

Dr. Michell is a member of the A.M.E. church and among the secret orders is affiliated with the Masons and the Odd Fellows. He belongs to the Robt. T. Freeman Dental Society of D. C. and the Mu-So-Lit Club. In politics he is a Republican.

As he has observed conditions, he concludes that the thing most needed to promote the progress of the race is financial development or the building up of those interests and enterprises that will give stability and standing to the race.

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## ROBERT ANDERSON

Washington is a colored Baptist stronghold and the leadership of the denomination in the city is unusually strong. Several of the older ministers are men of wide reputation. Then, too, there, is a group of young men, intelligent, consecrated, and efficient who are approaching their life work in a way which promise to open up to them large fields of service.

Among this younger group must be mentioned Rev. Robt. Anderson, pastor of the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church. Mr. Anderson is a native of Culpepper,, Va., where he was born March 24, 1887. His parents were William and Martha Fleshman, the boy taking the name of his god-father William Anderson.

Mr. Anderson was married on March 24, 1907, to Miss Della Hairston, daughter of Isaac and Mary Hairston. Of the two children born to them only one survives. Her name is Elizabeth Anderson.

As a boy, young Anderson attended the public school at Culpepper where as a student he made a commendable record. He was happily converted when sixteen years of age and joined the local Baptist church. Two years later he moved to Washington where he has since resided. He kept up his interest in church work and secured a responsible business position which he held for a number of years. He also resumed



ROBERT ANDERSON AND FAMILY

his studies in order that he might be prepared for the work of life.

In 1915, while at Howard University, he definitely decided to preach. As a matter of fact he had felt from childhood that his work in life must be that of the ministry. He was graduated in 1918 with the A.B. degree and has since been in the active pastorate. He began his ministerial work at what is now Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in 1918. It was then a mission without organization and without a member. He personally became responsible for the rent of a meeting place at \$27.00 per month. The church was organized and later properly recognized by the Baptist association. Because it was built on the proper foundation the new church grew and prospered. There are now (1921) two hundred members, and Mr. Anderson gives full time to the work. Apart from his own pastorate he has done considerable evangelistic work.

Among the secret, benevolent, and racial organizations Mr. Anderson is identified with the St. Luke's and the N. A. A. C. P. He is Financial Secretary of the local subordinate branch of the latter.

After the Bible, he is a general reader, giving considerable attention to current newspapers and magazines. He took an active part in all war drives and campaigns.

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## JAMES C. WEBSTER

It is gratifying to find a man occasionally like Prof. James Constantine Webster, electrical engineer, who has dared to get out of the beaten paths and venture into new lines of endeavor. Mr. Webster is a native of Washington City where he was born on August 3, 1895, and is one of the youngest men whose biography appears in this work. His father, Carroll Webster, was for more than thirty years personal messenger to the Director of the United States Geological Survey. He was the son of Addison Webster and Laura (Ward) Webster of English origin. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Miss Mary E. Short, daughter of Spencer Short, who was a grandson of Wm. Penn., Jr.





JAMES CONSTANTINE WEBSTER

Growing up in Washington, young Webster attended the local schools completing his course at the Armstrong Manual Training School. He passed from the Training School to the University of Pittsburg, Pittsburg, Penn., where he won his B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering in 1916. Ambitious, alert and prompted by a desire to go a step further than the average student, he encountered few difficulties except such as arose from lack of means and he did not permit these to discourage him.

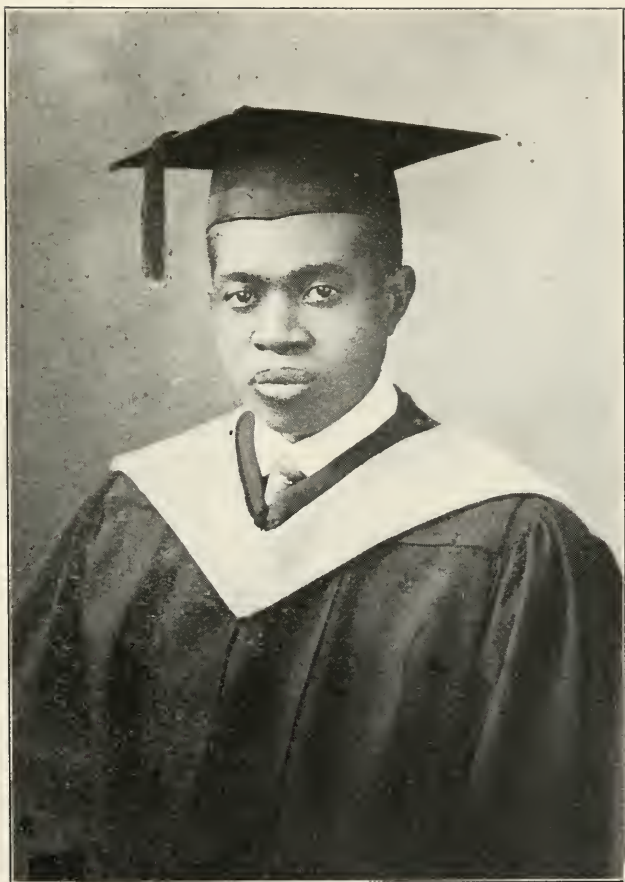
After completing his course at Pittsburg, he did research work in electric furnaces and arc welding and was for eight months marine operating engineer. In the fall of 1917 he became assistant to the Supt. of the Mechanical Department of the Prairie View State Normal and Industrial School at Prairie View, Texas. After that he was instructor in physics at Howard University for three years. He taught electricity to the drafted men at the Howard University Training Camp and was instructor in radio at Camp Mead. He has also been instructor in electricity at the night school at Armstrong.

In politics, Mr. Webster is a Republican. He is a member of the Catholic Church and is an Associate member American Institute of Electrical Engineers. He also holds Chief Engineer's License for Lake, Bay and Sound Steam Vessels. Mr. Webster has travelled through the east and south and into Canada. His favorite reading consists of philosophy, ethics, the work of Kipling, Balzac and Huxley, the Bible and all engineering works and periodicals. He is of the opinion that the best interests of the race are to be promoted "by strict adherence to the principles laid down and set forth in the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments of the United States Constitution, and by utilizing the service of capable Negro Mechanics, artisans, and professional engineers, thereby giving to the world dormant personalities which are now seeking recognition.

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## ADOLPHUS WALTON

Dr. Adolphus Walton, one of the rising young dentists of the Capital City is a native of Jamaica, having been born at Kingston on June 3, 1893. His parents were George and Frances Gray Walton.



ADOLPHUS WALTON

As a boy young Walton attended the Government schools of the island which correspond to our public schools. He was a clerk for the United Fruit Co., for five years and in this way earned money for his education.

He came to the States in 1910, after which he attended the Washington High School. When ready for his dental course, he matriculated at the dental college of Howard University from which he won his D.D.S. degree in 1918. Something of his record and standing as a student may be inferred from the fact that for three years he has taught Prosthetic Dentistry at his Alma Mater.

In 1920, Dr. Walton began the active practice in Washington and has met with encouraging success.

On June 30, 1920, he was married to Miss Lillian Peyton, a trained nurse of Washington.

Dr. Walton is a member of the Congregational Church and among the secret orders is identified with the Odd Fellows. As a rule Britishers are slow to change their citizenship, but Dr. Walton has been naturalized and is now an American citizen. He is a member of the Robt. T. Freeman Dental Association.

After his professional reading, Dr. Walston's tastes run to history and fiction. He is of the opinion that the only thing needed to insure the steady progress of the race is simply an equal chance.

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## JOHN L. S. HOLLOMAN

In proportion to population no other state in the union has contributed more strong men to the ministry of the protestant denominations of both races than has North Carolina. The colored Baptist churches of Washington City have drawn heavily on the Old North State for preachers. Among these must be mentioned Rev. John Lawrence Sullivan Holloman, A.M., pastor of the Second Baptist Church. Mr. Holloman is a native of Hertford County, N. C., where he was born on April 24, 1885. His mother Amy Holloman was a daughter of John and Isabella Freeman. Young Holloman grew up on the farm and laid the foundation of his education in the public



JOHN LAWRENCE SULLIVAN HOLLOMAN



schools at Harrellsville and at Powellsville in Bertie County. Later he went to the Waters Normal and Industrial Institute, that well known institution at the old town of Winton, which has turned out so many successful men. He passed from Waters Institute to Virginia Union University at Richmond where he combined his college and theological work. Returning to the home state and to his Alma Mater from Union University, he taught at Waters Institute for six years. Here he had the department of mathematics and elementary science.

Mr. Holloman has been active in the work of the church nearly all his life. He was converted at the early age of ten and joined the Bethany Baptist Church. At the age of sixteen he was called to preach and was licensed by the home church in 1904. In 1910 he was ordained to the full work of the ministry, having accepted the call of his home church which he served as pastor for eight years including the time he was teaching at Winton. He preached at Rich Square for six and a half years and while there remodeled the house of worship. He served the First Baptist Church at Powellsville for two years and St. Elmo at Windsor for a year and a half. The church indebtedness was canceled at both places during his administration. He preached at the First Baptist Church of Murfreesboro for one year.

In 1917 he left North Carolina to accept the call of the Second Baptist Church of Washington, D. C. Here the work has greatly prospered under his hand. An indebtedness amounting to nearly twenty five thousand dollars has been greatly reduced—in fact, nearly paid out. More than three thousand dollars has been expended on improvement of the church property and the membership greatly strengthened.

Mr. Holloman has been a hard worker all his life. As a school boy and youth he was under the necessity of making his own way and was accustomed to do whatever offered. He worked on the farm, in the lumber camp and at a brick yard. Later he spent his summer vacations at the North in the steamship service. He has brought over into his ministry the same energy and enthusiasm which characterized his work as a student and as a worker in other lines. He has taken a prominent place in denominational work and is Chairman of the Foreign Mission Board of the District Baptist Convention and a member of the Executive Board of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention. In politics he is a Republi-

can and among the secret orders is identified with the Masons Pythians, Odd Fellows and Elks.

Mr. Holloman has an interesting family. On June 12, 1912 he was married to Miss Rosa V. Jones, daughter of Robt. S. Jones of Charlottesville, Va. She was educated at Hampton and was, before her marriage, an accomplished teacher. They have four children. Their names are Carolyn F., Jessie V., Marjorie C., and John L. S., Jr.

Mr. Holloman's favorite reading next after the Bible is history and biography. He is of the opinion that the greatest single need of the race is the right sort of leadership.

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## GILBERT A. COLE

Gilbert Alexander Cole, Doctor of Dental Surgery, is a British subject, who, in nine years residence in this country, has made a secure position for himself, and bids fair to win a high position in his profession. Dr. Cole was born in Manchester Parish, Island of Jamaica, West Indies on August 19, 1873.

His parents, Fortune and Annie Cornwall Cole, have both passed away. Fortune Cole was a builder.

Even in his early youth, Dr. Cole gave marked evidence of intellectuality. He went through the Government Public Schools, and from them passed into the Mico College, where, at the end of a three years' course, he won the \$300.00 scholarship. This enabled him to read for a year at the University, from which in January 1898 he passed the London Matriculation examination (First Division). His teachers were professor (now Archdeacon) Wm. Simms M.A., senior wrangler in Mathematics, Cambridge, England, and Professor Wm. Cowper, M.A., senior wrangler in classics, Cambridge, England.

Previous to entering the Mico College Dr. Cole successfully passed for 3 years the Government pupil teacher examinations, in the last of which he had the distinction of being styled "Government Exhibitioner." Next he passed a preliminary examination, and then the final examination for entrance into College. In all these young Cole led the Island which has nearly a million people, and this will give some idea of his intellectual calibre.



GILBERT ALEXANDER COLE

At the London examination he also won another scholarship for 3 years. This, however, he did not take, but went out to teach both languages and mathematics from 1898 to 1912. An accomplished French scholar and a lover of French literature, that department naturally fell into his hands.

In 1912 he emigrated from his native home to Washington, and deciding to leave the teaching field he entered upon the Dental Course at Howard University and was graduated in 1915. In 1917 he entered upon practice, maintaining an operating room on Fourteenth St., N. W. In his youth he was partial to the English game of cricket. During the war Dr. Cole rendered free and voluntary work for the Colored soldiers.

An Episcopalian in his religious affiliation he is tolerant enough to be a Bible teacher in a Baptist Sunday School.

He is a Mason, and Odd Fellow, holds membership in the Supreme order of Helpers, the order of Moses, and the Robert T. Freeman Dental Society. Dr. Cole is more than a man of intellect, he is a cultured man who has the spirit of service, and a life long student. Such a man's opinions are worth while, and he can see no better way to promote the interests of his race than through "A spirit of helpful co-operation between the better element of the two races"

Many thoughtful men are coming to this conclusion feeling certain such a spirit will work great advantage to both races especially on the spiritual side which must dominate if civilization is to endure.

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## MOSES MATTHIAS PEACE

North Carolina has sent to the National Capital a number of strong men of both races from time to time. One of the colored men now residing in Washington, who has reflected credit on his native State and on his race is Hon. Moses Matthias Peace. Mr. Peace was born at Henderson in what is now Vance County, N. C., on November 18, 1861 right in the midst of that titanic struggle which was to mean so much to him and to the race. His father Charles G. Peace was a carpenter, the son of Cecil Peace. His mother, before her marriage, was Jane Davis, daughter of Leatha Davis.





MOSES MATTHIAS PEACE



Coming of school age just after the war in the midst of poverty and conditions that were still unsettled, young Peace had hard enough struggle for an education. Speaking of this period he says, "When large enough to get around, I was hired out by the year by my father to help support the other children of whom there were twelve born, three died in infancy, and nine grew to maturity. After working out till I was twenty one years old, my father allowed me to go for myself. I then went to work and saved a little money and went to school, paying and working my way as I went." After finishing at the public school he went to Shaw University completing his work there in 1885. When able to secure a teacher's license, he began teaching in Vance County, and taught four years. He also engaged in merchandising at Henderson which he followed for ten years.

On December 21, 1887, Mr. Peace married Miss Kittie Eaton daughter of Baker and Fannie Eaton of Henderson. They have four children; Willie C., Ernest E., Moses A. and Claudine Peace. Mrs. Peace was educated at Shaw also and was herself a teacher.

In politics Mr. Peace is a Republican and before leaving N. C. was prominent in the work of the party. In 1892 he was elected Coroner of Vance County and at the expiration of his term was elected a member of the State legislature and re-elected again in 1896. The following year he was appointed by Governor Russell on the Board of Directors of the State Penitentiary for a period of four years. In the spring of 1898 the late senator Jeter C. Pritchard appointed him to a position in the Government Printing Office, a position which he has held for more than twenty years. He is a member of the Baptist Church and has long been active in the work of the church. All his life he has been a hard worker and all his life he has been dependable. He is familiar with conditions in both the city and the country and believes that the progress of the race depends on "our entering the business world, securing property, pooling our wealth, trusting in God and doing the right."

He is prominent in the work of the secret orders being identified with the Freemasons, Past Master, and seven times representative at the Grand Lodge Sessions, two years District Deputy of a Masonic District, Past Patron and organizer of a Chapter, order of the Eastern Star and twice representative

at the Grand Chapter. He is a Deputy and Organizer for U. O. True Reformers, member and past Financial Secretary; Mutual Relief Association, member Elder Men's Relief Association, member, Grand Lodge and Subordinate Lodge of Knights of Pythias, member Courts of Calanthe, Organizer, District Deputy, Grand representative, and member Executive Board, I. O. St. Luke, Past Treasurer, Ex-member Board St. Luke Hall Association, Presiding Mayor in the Supreme Order of Helpers, Presiding M. W. Chief Past Chief Council No. 17 I O. St. Luke, member Men's Cliff Rock Association Stockholder in the Whitelaw Hotel and House Co., Stockholder in St. Luke Hall Association, Stockholder in the National Improvement Company, Trustee of Florida Ave. Baptist Church, Organizer and Stockholder in the Capital City Business Club He was one of the Four Minute men speakers during the late world's war and a member of the Federal Employer's Association, member Association for the Advancement of Colored people, member B. Y. P. Union and a member Missionary Society.

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## AUGUSTUS LEWIS

Rev. Augustus Lewis of Washington is another Virginia farmer boy to succeed at the Capital of the nation. He was born in Madison County, Va., on July 15, 1886. His father Walter Lewis was a farmer and Augustus grew up on the farm where he was accustomed to do all sorts of farm work. He knows but little about his grandparents on his father's side except that they lived to be old. His mother was, before her marriage, Lucinda Annie Redman. Her father was a shoemaker by trade, who moved to Washington after Emancipation. The name of his wife was Kate Redman, and she lived to a ripe old age and used to tell the children and grandchildren of the hardships and cruelties of slavery days, when their prayers for freedom had to be muffled and uttered behind closed doors.

As a boy on the farm young Lewis went to the public schools. Later on moving to Washington, in 1904, he worked at hotels and pursued his studies under private instructors. He was converted when he was about 18 years of age and joined the



AUGUSTUS LEWIS

Mt. Nebo Baptist church Washington, D. C. At his conversion, he felt called to preach the Gospel. He was licensed by the Mt. Nebo Church on February 12, 1909. In 1918 he was ordained to the full work of the ministry by the same church. He pursued his theological studies in the theological department of Howard University at night and finished the course as valedictorian of his class. He has done a great deal of evangelistic work, in which he has been unusually successful. While in school he was assistant pastor of the Mt. Nebo Baptist church which at that time was under the leadership of Rev. Thomas Hall. This was splendid training for the young preacher. In December 1919 he began a successful pastorate at the historic Little Ark Baptist Church in King George County Va., which has been greatly blessed and very fruitful. In fact he was successful there from the beginning. The house of worship was repaired, many who had drifted away were reclaimed and the finances of the church built up. In the summer of 1920 a gracious revival resulted in 45 additions to the church. The year 1921 was even more successful. Total improvements amounting to \$1500.00 made the church modern and beautiful with all debts paid and a larger balance in bank than when the work was begun.

All the benevolences of the church have been taken care of and the summer revival resulted in 36 additions to the membership. A total of a hundred members have been added since the beginning of his work there in 1919. He gives to that work two Sundays a month.

In the spring of 1920 he was called to the pastorate of the First Baptist church of Rosslyn, Va., to which he gives two Sundays a month. This work also has prospered under his ministry, the membership has grown, the building has been repaired, property bought and best of all the spiritual life of the church strengthened. So it will be seen that he who tried to escape from the preaching of the Gospel is having a fruitful ministry.

On September 17, 1907, Mr. Lewis married Miss Emma Rebecca Davis daughter of Benjamin and Sallie Davis of Madison, Va. They have one child Mary S. E. Lewis.

Mr. Lewis belongs to the Masons, the Sons and Daughters of Liberty, the N. A. A. C. P., and is President of the North Kenilworth Improvement Association. He has studied condi-

tions in the city and in the country and believes what is most needed is, (1) religious training, (2) moral uplift, (3) educational development, (4) commercial enterprises.

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## WILLIAM D. BATTLE

North Carolina is the stronghold of the A. M. E. Zion Church. Some of its most splendid institutions are located in that State and not a few of the notable men of the connection are natives of North Carolina. The State has contributed many strong men to Zion's pulpit, who have made their mark in other sections and in other states. Among these must be mentioned Rev. William Delmar Battle, A.B., S.T.B., Pastor of the Galbraith A.M.E. Zion Church of Washington. He is a native of the historic old town of Newbern, N. C., on the eastern coast of the State. His father, the late Rev. Thomas C. Battle, was also a minister of the Zion Church and did notable work in Eastern Carolina in his day and generation. It is also worthy of note that the old gentleman was married three times and was the father of twenty-six children. Mr. Battle's mother was before her marriage Miss Annie Vashti Delmar. Growing up in Newbern, young Battle laid the foundation of his education in the public and high schools of that city. For his normal and college courses he went to Livingston College at Salisbury, N. C., where he won his A.B. degree in 1904. He passed from Livingstone to Lincoln University for his theological training and won the S. T. B. from that institution in 1907.

Our subject was converted at the tender age of ten years, but even before that, and as a mere boy, had felt that his work in life must be that of the ministry. In fact he was locally known as the "baby preacher." He was licensed at Statesville, N. C., and joined the Conference in 1903. His first regular conference appointment was to the Second Creek Circuit, Salisbury, N. C., which he served for a year and a half. While at Lincoln University he served a local Mission most successfully. His next appointment was to Avondale, Pa. where he preached one year and while there paid the church debt. He went from Avondale to Varick Temple, Philadelphia, as the first pastor of that church and served it for two years





WILLIAM DELMAR BATTLE

His next appointment was to York, Pa., where he preached for a little more than four years. While on that work, he had splendid growth in the numbers and the power of the membership. From York he was sent to his present appointment, Galbraith Station at Washington, D. C. Coming to this work in 1914 he has reorganized it and put new life into the church. A long standing indebtedness, with which the work had been burdened for thirty odd years, has been canceled under his ministry and the congregation has steadily grown until now the house is too small for its accommodation and a building fund is being accumulated for the erection of a new house of worship. He has been a delegate to three General Conferences and led the delegation at the Knoxville General Conference in 1920. He is a hard worker, and a man of executive ability as well as a popular and eloquent preacher.

During the days of his boyhood and youth he learned the trade of brick mason and plasterer and like the apostle of old has not been afraid to work with his own hands when by so doing he could help himself to something better or advance the cause of the Kingdom. His early vacations were spent at the North working at his trade. Later he was in the Pullman service and found the personal contacts and travel incident to that work a most valuable experience. He taught school for two terms in Cabarrus County, N. C. He was active in college athletics while in school. In politics he is a Republican and among the secret orders is identified with the Masons and the Odd Fellows. He is also a member of the N. A. A. C. P.

On June 11, 1907, Mr. Battle was happily married to Miss Ada A. Harris of Concord, N. C. Mrs. Battle is a graduate of Scotia Seminary and was before her marriage an accomplished teacher. She is the daughter of Henry and Mary Harris. She has entered most heartily and cordially into the work of her husband. During the war Mr. Battle was active in all the drives and campaigns. Next after the Bible his favorite reading consists of history and poetry. He believes that the basis of real progress is to be found in the true religion of Jesus Christ.

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# DANIEL WASHINGTON

The story of the life and work Rev. Daniel Washington, pastor of the First Baptist church, Mt. Pleasant, D. C., should be a source of encouragement to every struggling youth. Beginning life in poverty and obscurity on the farm at a time when it was harder to get an education than now, he made his way to a place of usefulness in the kingdom.

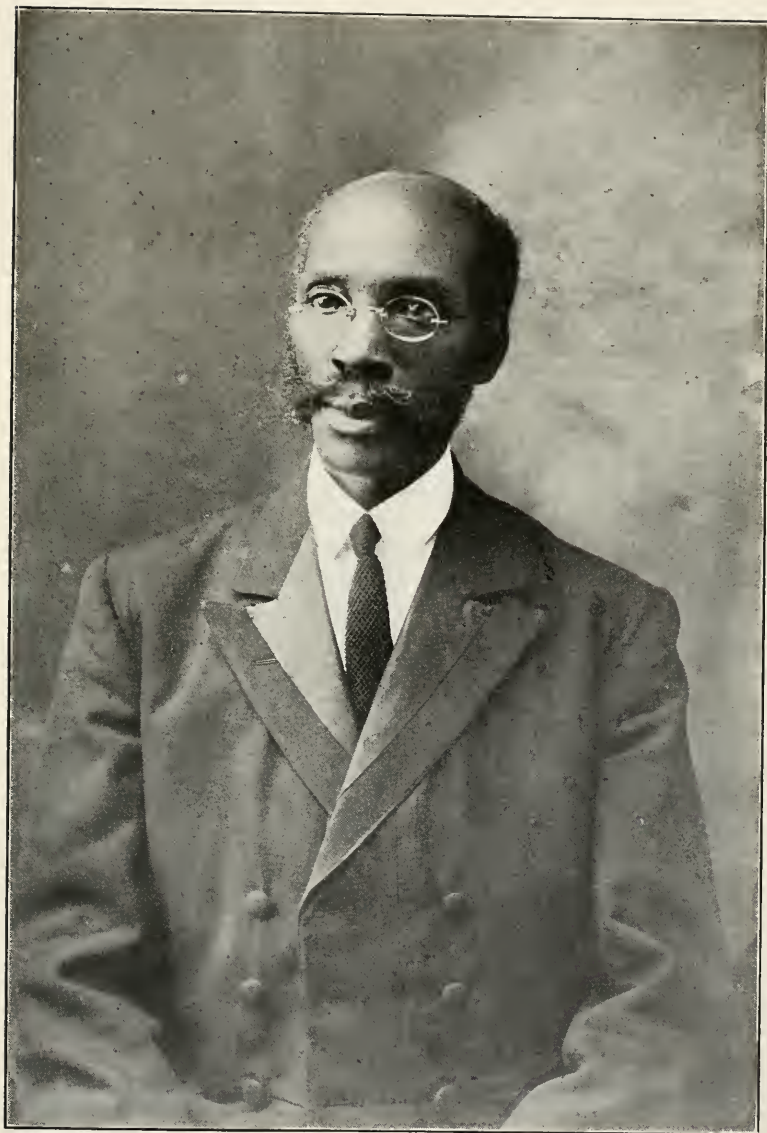
He was born in King George County, Va., on September 1, 1866. His father, James H. Washington, was a builder and a blacksmith. The maiden name of his mother was Amelia Thompson, a daughter of Mildred Thompson. Young Washington grew up on the farm and laid the foundation of his education in the local public schools. He was converted at the tender age of nine and joined the Good Hope Baptist church King George, Va. Almost from childhood he felt that the Gospel ministry must be his work in life and he never lost sight of that during the years of his boyhood and youth; though he was 22 before he was licensed. Later he was ordained to the full work of the ministry by the home church.

He came to Washington as a young man and entered Howard University. He was graduated from the theological department of that institution from which he has the D.D. degree.

Dr. Washington's first regular pastorate was the Mt. Hope Baptist church in Spottsylvania County, Va., where he preached two years and built a new church. He preached at Mt. Zion Baptist church, North East, D. C., for four years and ten months. In 1906 he accepted the call of the First Baptist church at Mt. Pleasant, North West, D. C., where his greatest work has been done. A new house of worship has been erected and the membership greatly strengthened.

On September 18, 1901, Dr. Washington married Miss Agnes Duson of Spottsylvania County, Va.

Dr. Washington is a Republican in politics though he has not been active. He has done a great deal of teaching in his life especially along theological lines. He is a member of the Executive Board of the Mt. Bethel Association and is also identified with the Baptist Minister's Conference, being Chairman of the Committee on speakers and subjects. Among the



DANIEL WASHINGTON

secret orders, he is identified with the Masons. His favorite reading consists of theological literature and history. He is of the opinion that race progress is a question of individual progress based on self respect.

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## JAMES FINLEY WILSON

One of the prominent figures in Negro journalism in America is James Finley Wilson, editor of the *Eagle*, Washington, D. C. Mr. Wilson is a native of Tennessee, having been born at Nashville on August 28, 1879. His father, James L. Wilson, was the son of Cornelius and Emeline Wilson. The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Miss Nancy Wylie, daughter of Thomas, known as "Free Tom," Wylie and his wife Millie.

As a boy, young Wilson attended the Nashville graded and high schools and later passed to Weyman's Academy, Dickson, Tenn., where he spent four years. He taught school at Dickson for two years and at Burns, Tenn., one year. From Tennessee he went to Kansas City, Mo., and was there for three years. While there he became president of the Young Men's Republican Club of the famous 8th Ward. Mr. Wilson has seen the West at its best and at its worst. He has been on the open range, in the city, on the railroad, in the mining town and on the coast. All the time he was absorbing information about folks and about places, which is now one of his best assets. He spent two years in and around Denver and was with that idol of the American boy's heart—"Buffalo Bill" when the town of Cody was established. Later he drifted into the Pullman and dining car service which he followed for several years and found it a liberal education in itself. After that he went into the mining district of Nevada and from there to San Francisco. He spent one season in Alaska and was with the first outfit that went over White Horse Pass. Returning East in 1908, he went to New York and attended a school of journalism, and was with the *New York Age* for about a year. He formed a partnership with Roscoe Simmons and published the *National Review* for a year. Then Mr. Wilson went south to take the management of the *Journal and Guide of Norfolk, Va.*, and remained in that position for four years, during which





JAMES FINLEY WILSON

time the paper was brought up to its greatest period of prosperity and the largest circulation of its history. From Norfolk he went to the Baltimore Times for two successful years and from there to Harrisburg for six months with the Advocate Verdict. From Harrisburg, Mr. Wilson came to the National Capital to establish the Sun. This was a weekly, published as the organ of the Masons and the Baptists. It was successful from the beginning, when changes were made which practically took the management out of Mr. Wilson's hands, the Sun ceased to shine. Realizing that Washington afforded an unusual field for a man of his training he proceeded to establish the Eagle in 1914 which soon came to be the most widely circulated paper for colored people published in Washington.

That is merely an outline of his activity as a newspaper man. He is an orator of recognized ability and is much in demand as speaker on anniversary and public occasions. He is fair but fearless and makes friends wherever he goes. His work in the secret and benevolent orders is well known. He is a Mason, thirty-second degree, Odd Fellow, P. N. G., Pythian, Chancellor Com., St. Lukes, Dis't Deputy and is Grand Traveling Deputy of the Elks and has held office under every exalted ruler since the order was founded.

He takes an active part in the various racial organizations business, social and political. He is a director of the local bank and is identified with most of the large building and development enterprises of the race in Washington either as a stock holder or director. He is, of course, a member of the N. A. A. C. P. and in politics is a Republican. He was a member of the local Harding and Coolidge Club and is chairman of the Prince George County (Md.) Voter's League. He belongs to the Baptist Church.

In his own profession, that of journalism, he is a recognized leader, being President of the National Capital Press Association of Washington, D. C., and of the National Negro Press Association.

Mr. Wilson has had an unusual opportunity to study conditions in every part of the country and is of the opinion that the great needs of the race can be summed up in a few words: "Education and human rights."

During the war, he put his paper squarely on the side of patriotism and was himself one of the "four minute men."

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# ANNA C. WILLIAMS

During recent years women have come to take a larger and larger part in the business, political and religious life of both races. Occasionally one finds an outstanding figure whose personality and whose ability have brought her to a place of leadership and large usefulness. Such a woman is Mrs. Anna Clark Williams, of Washington, president of the Woman's Auxiliary to the General Baptist Missionary Convention of the District of Columbia. Mrs. Williams whose maiden name was Miss Anna Clark is a native of Washington, where she was born March 9, 1880. Her father John W. Clark is an engineer. Her mother, before her marriage, was Miss Ellen Long daughter of Ann Everhart Long a native of Ala. She was a daughter of Patrick Long, a veteran of the Civil War. Ann Everhart Long was the owner of considerable orange groves in Florida.

As a girl Mrs. Williams attended the local public and high schools, completing her course at the former in 1895 and at the latter in 1897.

On October 25, 1899, She was married to Mr. Alonzo L. Williams of Washington. They have an interesting family of three children: Norwood C., Bernice L., Elene M. Williams.

Mrs. Williams was converted at an early age and joined the Metropolitan Baptist Church. She has been active in the work of the church and Sunday School all her life and soon showed those qualities of leadership which have brought her to the front rank of the women in her great denomination. In 1916, she was made president of the Woman's Auxilliary a position which she has since held. This work has brought her in contact with the religious leaders of the day. She is in demand as a speaker at conventions and denominational gatherings. Her activities are by no means limited, however, to her own denomination. She is identified with the Associated Charity Conference, and is a graduate Red Cross nurse. She has had speeial training in oratory and elocution and is in every way equipped to render large service in her chosen field of endeavor. She believes the progress of the race depends upon Christian training and the right sort of education—the sort that will take into account the head, the heart and the hand.



ANNA CLARK WILLIAMS



Mrs. Williams was a pioneer in the entertainment of the poor children of the race at Community Christmas trees. She was an energetic worker during the war period and found her people unusually responsive.

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## ISAAC J. D. LIPSCOMB

Isaac Joseph David Lipscomb, of Washington, D. C., is a type of the sturdy and unassuming men who are doing good work in building up their race. Mr. Lipscomb was born in York County, S. C., March 15, 1871., son of Isaac and Isabella Thompson Lipscomb. The elder Lipscomb was a farmer who died when the son was three years old. The paternal grandparents of I. J. D. Lipscomb were John and Sarah Lipscomb and on the maternal side were George and Amy Thompson, great grandparents Stephen and Rachel Thompson.

A widowed mother had to wrestle with the problem of supporting a family and young Lipscomb's opportunities were very limited.

At six years of age he entered a country school, which had one teacher and seventy-five pupils. It had a winter session of about two and a half months from January to March and a summer session of two months in July and August. Between terms the boy worked on the farm. As he grew larger, the desire for knowledge increased and he would study at home of nights by the light of pine knots until tired, and would then rise early in the morning, when fresh for another hour or two of study.

At 16 he went before the County Board, passed, and that year taught school, and to some extent worked on the farm. This was the first money he had ever earned, and he divided that with his mother.

The following year he entered Brainerd Institute and was surprised to find himself able to enter classes with those who had had more advantages. He worked his way through Brainerd teaching, working on the farm, and studying hard at home. At 21 he was graduated. After leaving Brainerd he took a business course and in his spare time later he went through





ISAAC JOSEPH DAVID LIPSCOMB

with a course in higher accounting. He has continued through life to be a student which is setting a good example to all men. At 23 he gave up teaching to give his time to farming and mercantile operations, still in York County, S. C. At 29 he left the farm to enter business with W. C. Coleman at Concord, N. C., and in 1904 moved to Washington to enter the Government service.

As the years passed by he interested himself in useful activities outside of his regular business. He became one of the founders of the North State Mutual Improvement Company, of which he has continuously been an official, first as Vice-President then Secretary and now Secretary-Treasurer. Is an active member of the A.M.E. Zion Church being secretary of the trustee board and teacher in the Sunday School, member the Crispus Attucks Association and the I. O. of St. Luke. In the last named he has been Recording Secretary, Worthy Chief Past Worthy Chief and Financial Secretary.

Affiliated with the Republican party he has contented himself with discharging his party duty as a private member.

Mr. Lipsecomb considers the influence and training of his mother to have been the most important factor in shaping his life.

His business duties have carried him into some ten states. but he does not consider himself a travelled man.

His preferred reading has been the Bible, The Voyage of Life, What Successful Men say of Success.

He married December 29, 1908 Miss Nina F Ury daughter of Andrew and Lucy Ury. Of his marriage there are three living children, Isabelle Lucile, Sarah Frances, and Isaac Joseph David Lipsecomb, Jr.

Mr. Lipsecomb's conviction as to the best method of promoting the interests of the race are a wider education, the founding of business organizations, and instruction as to the power of cooperation.

And that is true. The world will never be what it might be and ought to be until humanity learns that competition is born of the selfishness of man, and that the Law of God is cooperation.

Mr. Lipsecomb, in recent years, has built up an auditing business and a drayage and moving business, in addition to his

regular work at Post Office Department. He is also a director and secretary of the board of the Essex DeLoach Self Serving Table Mfg. Co.

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## JOHN F. WASHINGTON

It is remarkable how many men have to go away, or at least think they have to go away from home, in order to succeed in their chosen lines of work. Occasionally, however, we find a man who has been able to recognize the opportunities which lie right around him in his own city or community. Such a man may do splendid work, provided the home folks, who know his abilities and understand his character have confidence in him. That is the secret of the success of Rev. J. Frank Washington, pastor of the Greater Calvary Baptist Church of Washington City where he was born and reared and where he has resided all his life. Mr. Washington was born on March 15, 1872. His father, the late John Washington, sang in a local choir and the son seems to have inherited something of his father's musical talent which he has found very helpful, especially in his evangelistic work. Mr. Washington's mother was Caroline Washington. She passed away when the boy was only two years of age.

As he grew up, young Washington attended the local public and high schools. After he was through school he worked as a machinist. He was converted in his youth and joined the Liberty Baptist Church. Later feeling called to the work of the Gospel ministry he was licensed and finally ordained to the full work of the ministry by the same church. After deciding to take up the work of the ministry, he felt the need of better preparation along theological lines and studied theology at Howard University. He served as assistant pastor at Liberty for three years. He then did independent evangelistic work for four years. This took him out into the States especially North and East. His ministry as an evangelist was richly blessed. After four years in this service he accepted the call of the Mt. Olive Baptist Church of Arlington, Va., and preached for that congregation for three years and eight months. While there he remodelled the church and built up the con-



JOHN FRANKLIN WASHINGTON

gregation. He then purchased a tent which he pitched on Virginia Ave. between Twenty-first and Twenty-second Streets. Here he preached with power for two seasons and baptized 162 persons as a result of his meetings. With these and others in the same section of the city, he organized, in 1913, Greater Calvary Baptist Church. A temporary building was erected and used for six years. After that property was sold, a church was purchased in Georgetown at Thirty First and M. Streets. The work has prospered and the congregation grown under his ministry till now there are between five and six hundred members.

On December 26, 1886, Mr. Washington was married to Miss Ida Fry of Washington. They have four children. They are Irving, Ernest, Mabel and William Washington.

With singleness of heart Mr. Washington devotes himself to his ministry. He is not active in politics nor does he affiliate with the secret orders. He took an active part in various war campaigns and drives. His property interests and investments are all in Washington.

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## AUSTIN M. CURTIS

Some one has said that "Man must work. That is certain as the sun. But he may work grudgingly, or he may work gratefully. He may work as a man, or he may work as a machine. He can not always choose his work, but he can do it in a genial temper and with an uplooking heart. There is no work so sordid that he may not exalt it. There is no work so impassive that he may not breathe soul into it. There is no work so dull that he may not enliven it."

That paragraph might have been written about Dr. Austin Maurice Curtis, a leading physician and surgeon of Washington. Dr. Curtis has struggled up from the place of poverty and obscurity to a place of eminence in his profession and has filled the years between with faithful service. He is a native of the historic old town of Raleigh, N. C. where he was born soon after the war on January 15, 1868. His parents were Alexander W. and Elenora Curtis; his paternal grandparents were Austin and Hannah Curtis. Dr. Curtis laid the founda-





AUSTIN MAURICE CURTIS

tion of his education in the public schools of Raleigh. Here he came under the tutelage of the white teachers who came from the North at that time to teach the colored children of the South. Among these teachers were many fine souls possessed of the true missionary spirit. Not a few of them were splendid teachers. Miss Louisa Dorr is still gratefully remembered by a number of successful colored men whom she started on the road to success. She taught young Curtis and inspired him to struggle for a college education. He made his way to Lincoln University and by hard work and close economy completed the classical course at that institution in 1888 with the A.B. degree. Three years later the A.M. degree was conferred on him by the same institution. Though solicited to enter the ministry, Dr. Curtis had early made up his mind to study medicine and so passed from Lincoln to Northwestern University, Chicago, Ill., for his medical course and won his M.D. degree there in 1891. After going to Northwestern, his summers were spent in the Pullman service and from that time forth his way was easier. He began his practice in Chicago in 1891 and was Attending Surgeon at the Provident Hospital in that city and also Attending Surgeon at the Cook County Hospital, being the first colored man to hold that position. Seven years later in 1898 he was appointed Surgeon in Chief of Freedmen's Hospital which position he held four years and has since resided in Washington. He is Associate Professor of Surgery at the Medical School of Howard University and has been identified with the institution for more than twenty years.

In politics he is a Republican. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church and belongs to the Masons. He is identified with the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Washington and with the National Medical Association. He has been president of the latter and is now a member of the Executive Committee. He is also a member of the American Medical Association, the Mu-So-Lit and the Sphinx Clubs and Sigma Pi Phi Greek letter fraternity. Dr. Curtis is a sustaining member of the Y. M. C. A., and is also actively identified with the Anti Tuberculosis Society of Washington and the Society of Social Hygiene. He has been a frequent contributor to the medical journals.

During the war he was Contract Surgeon. Dr. Curtis has made for himself a prominent place in the professional, social and business life of the city. He is a member of Board of

Directors of the Standard Mutual Investment Co., and also a director of the Prudential Bank. He takes an active interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the race and is a member of the N. A. A. C. P.

On May 5, 1888, Dr. Curtis was married to Miss Namahyoka Gertrude Soekume. They have an interesting family of four children Dr. A. L. Curtis, of Washington; Dr. A. M. Curtis, Jr., Patterson, N. J.; Merrill H. Curtis now (1921), a student at Northwestern; and Gertrude Ellen Curtis, Sargeant's School of Physical Education of Cambridge, Mass.

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## DAVID ALPHONSO LANE

Dr. David Alphonso Lane of the Pension Bureau, Washington, D. C. is a native of the Old North State, having been born at Raleigh, N.C., on December 6, 1859. This, it will be remembered, was before the outbreak of the war which was destined to bring freedom to the boy and to millions of his race in America. His father Allen Lane, a stone cutter and stone mason, was the son of David Lane, noted for his great piety and benevolence. Dr. Lane's mother was Virtue Manly before her marriage. She was the daughter of James Manly the pioneer of Methodism among the Negroes of N. C. He was a man of business ability as well, and was overseer for his owner, Gov. Charles Manly.

Growing up in Raleigh young Lane, came of school age just after the war and attended the local schools. Later he went to Shaw University for his college work and won his A.B. degree in 1884. Three years later the same institution conferred on him the A.M. degree.

In the winter following his graduation, on December 11, 1884, Dr. Lane married Miss Hattie Wilson daughter of William H. and Isabella Wilson of Durham, N. C. She was educated at Raleigh and taught with her husband.

Of the seven children born to them, three are living. They are Dr. Willard M. Lane a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this volume, Miss Rosa Belle Lane, A. B. (Oberlin), teacher of psychology at Miner Normal, Washington, D. C.,

and David A. Lane, Jr., A.B., (Bowdoin, M.E.) A.M. (Harvard) Professor of English W. Va. College Institute, Institute W. Virginia.

Dr. Lane was under the necessity of making his own way in college. When he had reached a point where he could secure a teacher's license he began teaching, in 1882 and remained in educational work till he entered the Government service in 1890.

As a young man, he joined the Baptist church at Raleigh. That was in 1876. He filled every office in the gift of the church open to laymen.

In the fall of 1890, he resigned his position in the Raleigh Schools to accept a position in the departmental service at Washington. On coming here he found it possible to take the medical course at Howard University without interfering with his work in the Department. Accordingly he won his M.D. degree in 1894 and was made Medical Examiner in the Pension Bureau. He resigned from the department in the summer of 1898 to enter the military service in the war with Spain. He was made 1st Lieut, Quartermaster and Commissary, 3rd N. C. Infantry. He was mustered out in February the following year and re-instated in the departmental service. He belongs to the National Medical Association and is deacon in the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church and Treasurer of the Board. Among the secret orders he is identified with the Masons, Odd Fellows, Pythians, American Woodmen and a local benefit organization known as the Cliff Rock.

If one were to look for the secret of Dr. Lane's success, it would probably be found in the fact that first of all he believes in character and has refused to be discouraged by difficulties. Of hard work there has been a plenty, but there has also been progress, recognition and a home. He believes that progress depends upon "A thorough and careful study of the issues of the day, an intelligent use of the ballot, co-operation, an appreciative use of all educational advantages offered and the purity of self and the home life."

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DAVID ALPHONSO LANE





# FRED K. D. ANDERSON

Prof. Fred Kamilous Douglas Anderson, A.B., A.M., Professor of Languages and Dean of the Academy of Frelinghuysen University, Washington, D. C. is a versatile man whose work as a teacher is widely known. He is a native of West River, Md., where he was born on March 11, 1877. His father, George Henry Washington Anderson was a farmer and was the son of Thos. Anderson. Prof. Anderson's mother, before her marriage, was Miss Nannie Randall, daughter of David Randall.

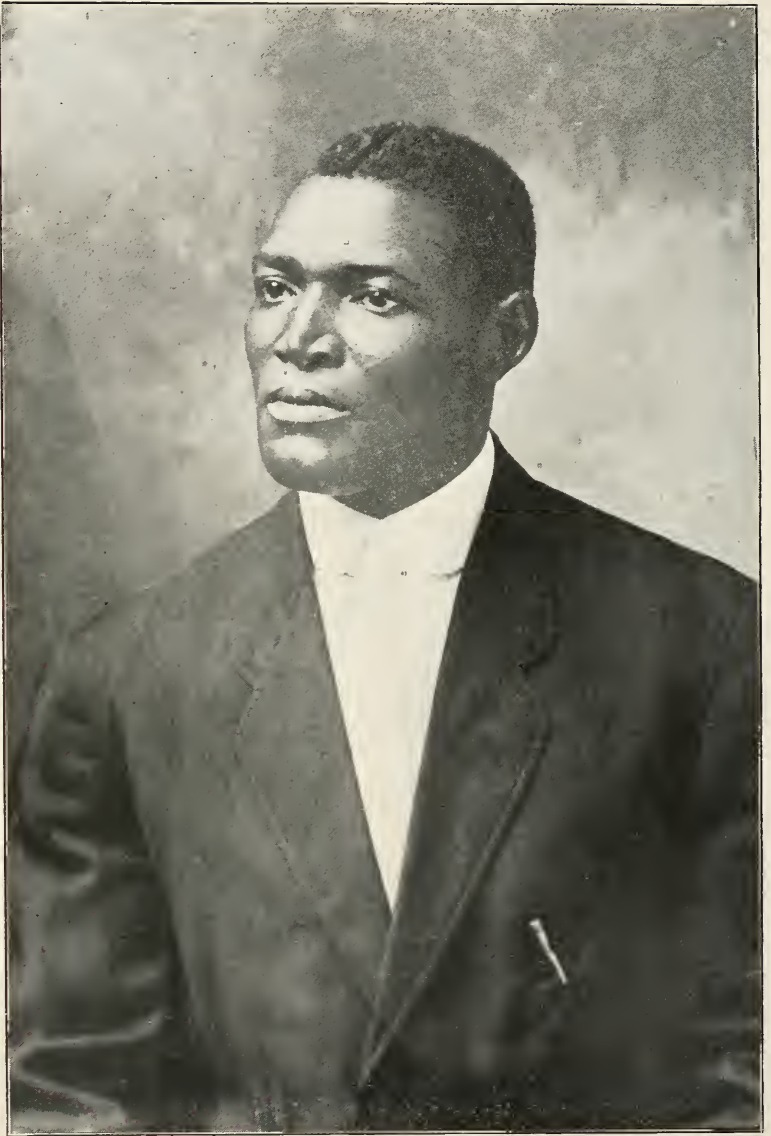
As a boy, young Anderson laid the foundation of his education in the local public schools from which he passed to Morgan College, Baltimore, and was graduated from the College preparatory department in 1905. After that, he matriculated at Howard University, graduating from the College of Liberal Arts with the A.B. degree in 1912. In 1920 Frelinghuysen University conferred on him the A.M. degree. He also holds a Collegiate Certificate from the Virginia State Board of Education, entitling him to teach in any of the high or normal schools of that State. Prof. Anderson has had a rather varied experience as a teacher ranging all the way from the grades to the university. He began teaching at Baltimore in 1903.

He was Principal of the Millwood, Va., school for two years and taught in The East Texas Academy, Tyler, for two years. In 1918 he came to Washington and that fall began work with Frelinghuysen University. In 1920, he was called to his present position. He has done a great deal of summer school and institute work.

On June 5, 1907, Prof. Anderson was married to Miss Emma Kidd of Virginia. The three children born to them have all passed away.

In politics he is a Republican and is a member of the A.M.E. Church. He has been active in church and young people's work, being identified with the Sunday School, the Christian Endeavor and the Y. M. C. A. He is also a Mason. Prof. Anderson believes "that the leaders of each race should do all they can to break down prejudice and to create harmony and fair play."

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FRED KAMILOUS DOUGLAS ANDERSON

# GROVER LEE DAVIS

Many of the most successful ministers of Washington City, young and old, are natives of the near-by State of Virginia. Among the enterprising young Baptist ministers of the city from Virginia must be mentioned Rev. Grover Lee Davis, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church. Mr. Davis was born in Green County, Va., on January 3, 1886. His father, Jackson Davis who still survives (1921) is a shoemaker by trade. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Miss Patsy Taylor, daughter of Gibbon and Matilda Taylor of Madison County, Va.

As a boy young Davis attended the local public schools, working on the farm or in a store between terms. From the public school he passed to The Piedmont Industrial School at Charlottesville. After he was able to secure teacher's license, he began teaching in Virginia and taught in that State for ten years. It is as a preacher that he is best known, however.

Mr. Davis was converted when twelve years of age, but even before this and at the early age of five, he was made to feel that his work in life must be that of the ministry. It is significant that he never got away from that impression or thought seriously of himself in any other line of work. In 1904 he was licensed to preach by the Shiloh Baptist Church and three years later was ordained to the full work of the ministry by the same church. Since that time he has been one of the active men of his denomination. With the exception of his present pastorate, all his work has been in Virginia. His first call was to the Mt. Kohran Baptist Church in Greene County, which he served for seven years and remodeled the house of worship. He preached at Shiloh, his home church for nine years and made extensive improvements in the church property. While there a new school was built under his leadership. He served the Emanuel Baptist Church of Orange six years. During this pastorate a new house of worship was erected at a cost of six thousand dollars. He preached at Mt. Holy four years and remodeled the church. In 1915 he accepted the call of the Shady Grove Church in Orange County, which he still serves, preaching there only every other month. The property there has been improved at an expense of about



GROVER LEE DAVIS



fifteen hundred dollars. In 1917, he was called to the pulpit of the Trinity Baptist Church of Washington, which is located on Church Street in the North West section. The work at Trinity has prospered under his administration. The membership has been built up and strengthened, the indebtedness of the church paid and in a little more than three years twenty thousand dollars raised for all purposes. Mr. Davis has been in demand for evangelistic work outside his own churches and has had for one of his age a fruitful ministry.

On August 28, 1910, he was married to Miss Edith Strother of Green County. She was trained in the local public schools and in Philadelphia.

In politics, Mr. Davis is a Republican. He belongs to the Masons and the Odd Fellows. After the Bible, his favorite reading consists of history and biography. He believes the greatest single need of the race is the right sort of education.

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## JESSE LAWSON

It is not easy to tell the story of a man like Jesse Lawson, A.M., LL.B., Ph.D., President of Frelinghuysen University of Washington in a short sketch.

He is a native of Maryland, having been born at Nanjemoy, Charles County on May 8, 1856. His father, Jesse Lawson, was the son of Jesse Alfred and Josephine Lawson. This Jesse Alfred Lawson was a teacher of ability who conducted a school at St. Michaels, Md. It is interesting to note that Fred Douglas was one of his pupils. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Miss Charlotte Price, daughter of James and Edith Price.

As a boy Lawson went to his grandfather's school in Maryland. After the close of the war he came to Washington and pursued his studies in the local schools. Later the family moved to Plainfield, N. J., where he entered high school, graduating in the class of 1871. Many of his school and classmates at Plainfield later came to be men of distinction in the business, professional and political life of the nation. These early acquaintances and contacts were in later years to be of the great



JESSE LAWSON

est service to him in many ways. A spelling match in which he was the last on the floor was the occasion of his first contact with the Frelinghuysens, a name which was to mean so much to him and to the race. In 1871, he was employed by the late Commodore Samuel Magaw to take care of his interest in a drug business in the city of New York and was engaged in this work till the fall of 1873. In the fall of that year he began teaching in Monmouth County. In 1876 he came to Washington and matriculated at Howard University, graduating with the A.B. degree, cum laude, in 1881.

After his graduation he returned to New Jersey and resumed his work as teacher, this time at Matewan, N. J. Beginning at a salary of \$40.00, he was given an increase of \$10.00 per month till the close of the school year.

Returning to Washington, he secured an appointment in the Bureau of Pension and took up the study of law at Howard and won his LL.D. degree in 1884. Since reaching his majority he had been active in politics and retained his New Jersey citizenship, becoming an important factor in state politics. In 1884, he ran against Congressman Geo. M. Robeson as delegate to the National Republican Convention and beat him eight to one, having the support of men like United States Senator Wm. J. Sewell. He was the first colored delegate from the North and created something of a sensation in Chicago, an account of which appeared in all the great New York papers and in the London Daily News. His home ward was always loyal to him whenever he cared to stand for election to the local or State conventions.

Returning from the Chicago Convention, he became legal examiner in the Pension Office, a position which he has since filled with distinction.

On December, 17, 1884, Mr. Lawson married Miss Rosetta Evelyn Cookley an accomplished teacher of Washington. They have four children: Josephine M. (Mrs. Harley), James F., Edward H., and Wilfrid W. Lawson.

He is a member of the Baptist church and is an Odd Fellow. He was Judge Advocate of the Knights of Labor and a member of the Excelsior Assembly out of which grew the Gridiron Club.

Able, intelligent and fearless, Dr. Lawson has not always agreed with the leaders of his people, but he has always been found working for the promotion of their progress and de-

velopment. At times his writing and speaking have brought down on his head storms of oppositions or of protest. He has always been amply able to take care of himself. The strength of his position has been that he has not sought his own preferment, but has worked for the race. When, in one of his publications, he pointed out how the Catholic church might be brought to an active interest in the Negro, all the world took notice. His work in connection with disfranchisement laws has been notable.

In 1906 a movement was begun under the auspices of the John C. Martin Fund to establish an institution for the better training of preachers already in the ministry. The first meeting at Washington was held in the home of Dr. Lawson. The work was begun the following year and after several experiments The Interdenominational University was established in 1908, which was renamed Frelinghuysen University on February 22, 1917. He has been identified with the school throughout its history and is now (1921) its President.

Dr. Lawson is President of the National Sociological Society a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science and organized the first Sociological Society in America.

Professor Lawson regards as his greatest work the movement set on foot by him to create, by act of Congress, a Commission on the American Racial Question, consisting of three white men from the South, three white men from the North and three colored men. This commission is to find common ground on which the white people of the South, the white people of the North and the colored people themselves are willing to stand. The commission is to have authority to inquire into and thoroughly investigate the conditions surrounding the colored people of the United States; ascertain the cause of unrest among them, and if there be racial friction, the cause of the same, and to suggest such remedies as are calculated to quiet the unrest and bring about harmonious relations between white and colored Americans.

The bill for the creation of such a commission is now pending before Congress.

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# JOHN MILLER BEANE

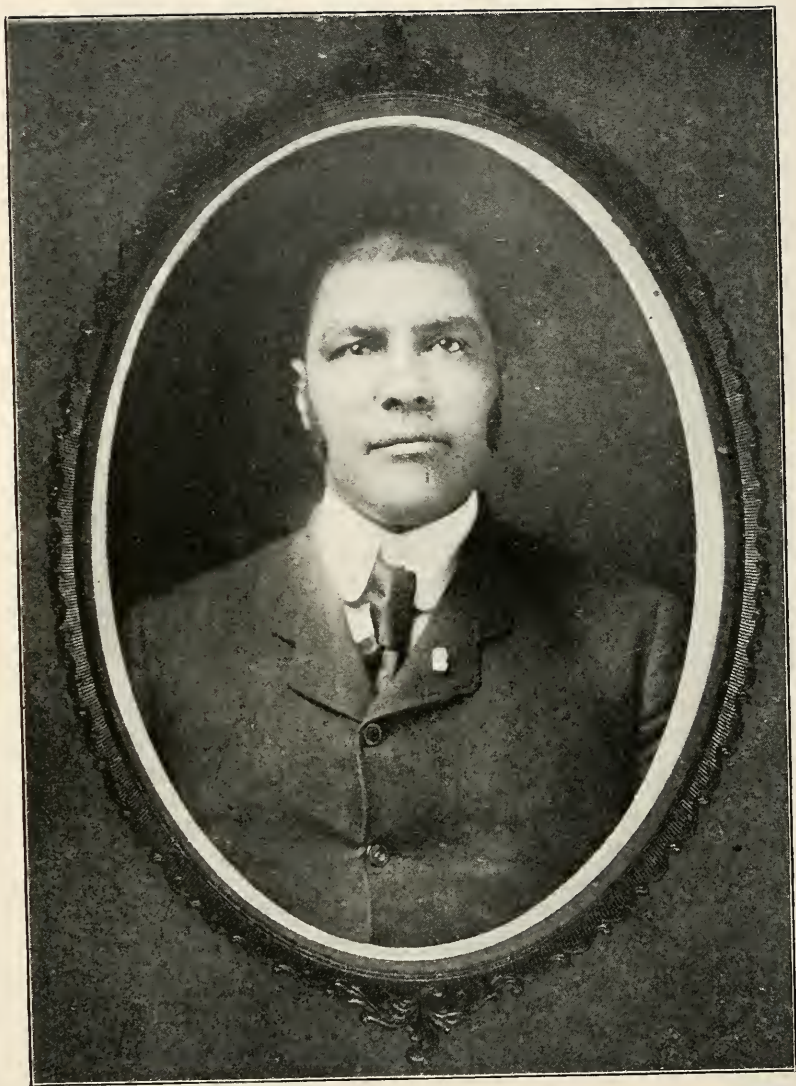
The Rev. John Miller Beane, now (1921) stationed at Washington, D. C., is one of the pioneers of the M.E. Connection having been licensed in 1875, nearly half a century ago. He is a native of the Old Dominion and was born in Roanoke County, near what is now Roanoke City on August 5, 1855. Thus it will be seen that he was a boy of ten years of age at the close of the war which brought freedom to his race and opportunity to him, as he was free born. The record of his ancestry is of unusual interest. His father, Bowyer Miller Beane, was a farmer and later in life a school teacher. He was the son of Moses Beane, who was the son of Adam Beane. Moses Beane married Sophiah Newman, a free woman. Under the law the condition of the child followed that of the mother, so the descendants of the slave father and free mother were free. On the maternal side, Mr. Beane comes of free ancestors also. His mother, who, before her marriage, was Miss Mary Magdalene Campbell, was a daughter of Solomon Campbell.

Young Beane laid the foundation of his education in his own home under the direction of his father. After leaving home he did the best he could without teachers and is practically self educated.

When nineteen years of age he was converted and a year later felt called to preach the Gospel. In 1875 he was licensed as a local preacher. On March 8, 1880, he was ordained Deacon by Bishop Peck and the following day was received on trial in the Washington Conference. On March 25, 1882, he was received in full connection and on March 16, 1884, was ordained Elder by Bishop E. G. Andrews.

For more than forty years he has been faithfully going in and out before his people. With singleness of purpose he has given himself to the preaching of the Gospel and has had a fruitful ministry. He has served the following charges: Glade Springs, Va., three years; Middleburg, Va., three years; Davidsonville, Md., two years; Buckeystown, Md., four years; Lexington, Va., two years; Leigh Street, Richmond, Va., Ellicott City, Md., Luthersville, Md., each one year; Harper's Ferry, W. Va., three years; Woodstock, Va., Huntington, W. Va., each one year; Clarksburg, W. Va., five years; Eastport, Md.,





JOHN MILLER BEANE

two years; Roanoke, Va., one year; Keyser, W. Va., four years; Benning, D. C., two years; Laytonsville, Md., three years; Simpson, Washington, D. C., three years. New houses of worship have been erected at Glade Springs, Lexington and Clarksburg. At Paris in Fauquier County, Va., the church begun by a former pastor was completed, while at Lincoln, Loudon County, Va., the foundation was laid for a new church.

On March 10, 1881, Mr. Beane was married to Miss Isabella Rebeeca Holland, daughter of Charles Samuel and Caroline Matilda Holland. Five children were born to them. The four living are Rev. Samuel M., Gilbert H., Mary C. F. (Mrs. Bourne), Blanche E. C. (Mrs. Hollomand). On October 1, 1920, Mrs. Beane passed to her reward.

Mr. Beane is a man of one book and that book the Bible, though he loves history, biography and wholesome fiction. In politics he is a Republican. He believes that, "Both white and colored must stand by the Golden Rule of Jesus, and know each other better. The white man of the South must stop living in the past look out for the present and the future. He must learn common justice."

Mr. Beane was for twelve years assistant Statistical Secretary of the Washington Conference and for fifteen years Assistant Secretary. He is now Secretary of the Ministers Alliance.

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## WILLIAM L. WASHINGTON

Rev. William Lee Washington, a teacher and Baptist preacher of Washington City, is a native of the Old Dominion, having been born in the historic little mountain city of Lexington on May 12, 1872. It was an inspiring and wholesome atmosphere in which to grow up. His father, William Washington, was the son of Mary Washington. The mother of our subject, before her marriage, was Cornelia Edwards, daughter of James and Martha Edwards. Growing up in Lexington, young Washington learned his father's trade which was that of baker, which later proved of great service to him in making his way in school. He attended the local public schools, from



WILLIAM LEE WASHINGTON

which he passed to Storer College at Harper's Ferry for his normal course. He spent three years at Storer, and then went to Oberlin Academy and College, finishing his college course, with the A. B. degree in 1900.

Mr. Washington was converted and joined the M. E. Church when about sixteen years of age. It was not long after that when he felt called to preach the Gospel, but his personal inclinations were toward a life of political activity. All through his college course there was more or less of struggle, till a physical breakdown brought him face to face with the issue which could no longer be evaded. Following his graduation in 1900, he returned to Lexington and was principal of the Lexington School till 1905. In 1902 he joined the Conference at Baltimore under Bishop Foster. He began preaching before leaving Lexington. His next work was at Lynchburg, where he taught in the Methodist school, known as the Virginia Industrial Institute for three years. He preached at Leesville and did rural school work for three years. Coming to Washington in 1911, he entered the government service and was with the Census Bureau for a year, serving a small church at Ivy City at the same time. After that he was a social worker for the colored settlement for several years. In 1915, Mr. Washington was appointed teacher in the public school system of the city with which he has since been identified. In that same year he withdrew from the Methodist Church and joined the Baptist Church. In 1917 he was called to the pastorate of the Pilgrim Baptist Church which has greatly prospered under his administration.

As a student, Mr. Washington was active and popular. He took a leading part in college athletics while at Oberlin. He also made a name for himself as an orator. He was the first colored student from Oberlin to represent that institution in the Northern Oratorical League contests. He enjoyed that honor twice.

Mr. Washington has been married twice. His first marriage was on July 4, 1904, to Miss Blanche Evans. Two children were born to them, Lillian and Elaine. Mrs. Washington passed to her reward in 1916. His second marriage was to Miss Sadie Williams, a kindergarten teacher of Washington, and was on July 3, 1918.

Mr. Washington has had opportunity to study conditions in various parts of the country and is of the opinion that the



thing most needed by the race today may be summed up in two words, "education and economic opportunity."

He has property interests in the old home town of Lexington and in Washington.

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## EDWARD D. W. JONES

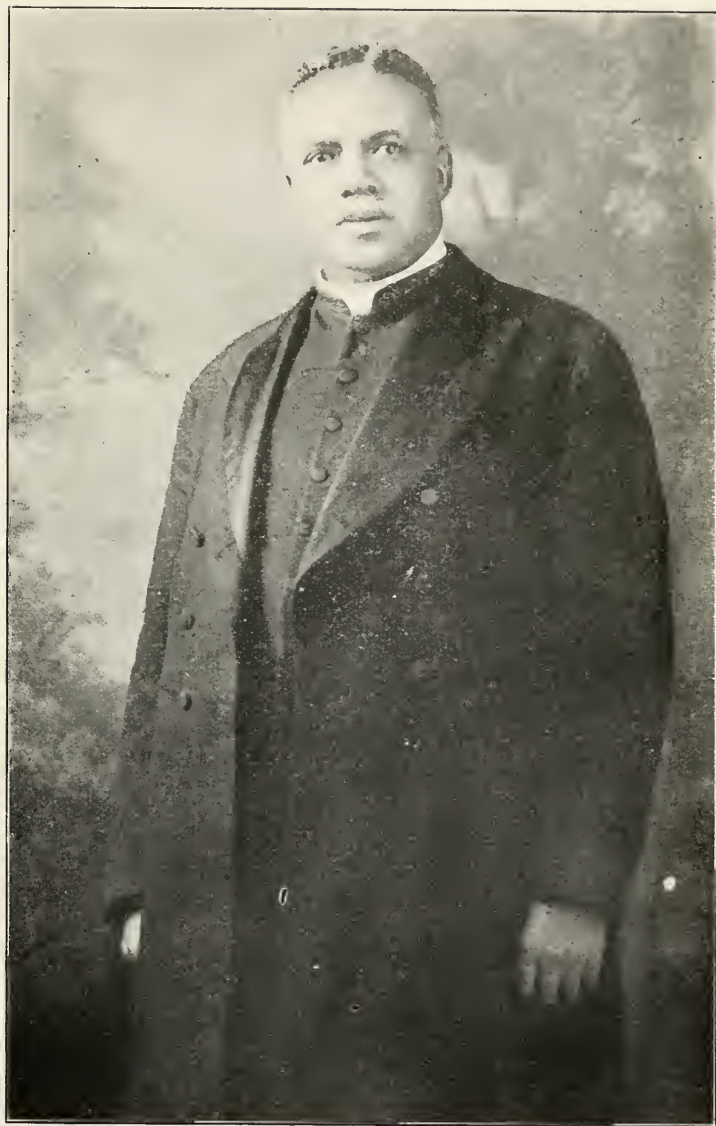
The Rev. Edward Derussa William Jones, A.M., D.D., now (1921), stationed at the Union Wesley Church, Washington, D. C., is one of the best equipped and most versatile men of his age in the A. M. E. Zion Connection.

He is a native of the Capital City, where he was born on Sept. 11, 1871. His father, the late Bishop S. T. Jones, bequeathed to the son—not wealth—but a good name and a worthy example, a vigorous body, mental capacity, and a heart attuned to the highest things. Bishop Jones was a son of Thos. Jones, a Pennsylvania slave before the abolition of the system in that state. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Miss Mary Jane Talbot, a daughter of William Talbot, also of Pennsylvania. She was a pioneer in the work of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society of the A. M. E. Zion Church and the first president of that organization.

Young Jones grew up in Washington and laid the foundation of his education in the local public schools, going first to Sumner and later to Stevens School. He learned the mason's trade and worked at masonry and plastering to help himself through school.

When ready for college, he went, on advice of his father, to Livingstone College, Salisbury, N. C., of which that great man of God, the late J. C. Price, was then President. Here he also sat at the feet of that other great man in the Kingdom, Dr. W. H. Goler, who has lived to see his student come into a place of large service in the denomination. The atmosphere and the contacts at that school of the prophets in the Southland have proven great assets in the life of Dr. Jones. He was graduated in 1893 and has from Livingston the degrees of A.M. & D.D.





EDWARD DERUSSA W. JONES



When about eighteen years of age Dr. Jones was converted. Soon after he dedicated his life to the work of preaching the gospel and has had a fruitful ministry. In the same year, 1891, that his distinguished father died, the son entered the itinerancy. He joined the conference at Lincolnton, N. C., under Bishop J. J. Moore. His first appointment was to Moore's Sanctuary, near Charlotte, N. C., which he served one year. He was successful from the beginning and from that humble charge marched steadily to the front rank of the Zion ministry and has had some of the most important and strategic stations of the denomination all the way from the Atlantic to the Pacific. His second appointment carried him to the beautiful old town of Maryville, Tenn., where he served the Zion Station for two years. While on this work he was married on June 21, 1893, to Miss Maggie Cecil Davis, a daughter of Thomas and Fannie Davis of Hartford, Conn. Thomas Davis was a soldier in the war between the states and a member of the G. A. R. Mrs. Jones was also educated at Livingston College.

Two children were born to Dr. and Mrs. Jones. One son, Edward Daney Jones, survives. At the outbreak of the World War he went to the officers training camp at Des Moines and was commissioned Lieutenant, Machine Gun Co. 367 Infantry, and saw service in France. He is now in the postal service in Chicago. From Maryville, Dr. Jones went to the Jacob Street Station, Louisville, three years, then Allegheny City, Penn., where he pastored the Avery Memorial Church for four years. He was then sent to St. Louis, Mo., and while there entertained the General Conference of 1904. After three years at St. Louis he was appointed to the Walters Station, Chicago, where he preached with increasing power for four years. The approaching World's Fair at San Francisco created a problem and an opportunity. The authorities were not slow to see that Dr. Jones was in every way equipped for that work. Accordingly he was transferred to the coast and preached at San Francisco for three years. In 1916, he was sent back East and stationed at Rochester. At no previous period of his life had he been more active. In addition to the regular work of the pastorate he was called to take the leadership, during the war in Red Cross and patriotic activities among his people. This was at a time of unusual industrial activity when many colored people were flocking to the North.

In the midst of this came the influenza epidemic, which tested the powers of every pastor. Dr. Jones remained at Rochester for the full quadrennium and in 1920 was appointed to the Wesley Union Station in his native city of Washington, where the work prospers under his hand.

He has long been a prominent figure in denominational gatherings. He was a candidate for the Bishopric at the Knoxville Conference in 1920. The Conference divided on the question of electing two bishops or three. The latter won and the conference proceeded to the election of bishops. After the election of two men to the Bench, those who opposed the election of three voted solidly against Dr. Jones—not so much because they were opposed to him as that they were antagonistic to a third bishop at that time and although he had a clear majority of 208 to 154, it required a two-third's majority which caused a deadlock and thus carried the election over to the next General Conference.

Dr. Jones has found his greatest incentive and inspiration in the Bible and the Church. To him religion is a vital thing and his greatest comfort springs from experiences growing out of his personal relationship to Jesus Christ. Such a man, however eloquent, preaches quite as effectively with his life as with his sermons.

In politics he is a Republican, and among the the secret orders, belongs to the Masons. His work has taken him to every part of the country and given him at once a broad vision and intimate knowledge, not only of religious, but of general conditions, the country over. He is of the opinion that the things which will contribute most to the progress of the race are, "The development of a deep, real racial consciousness, confidence in leadership, confidence in Christianity, education, the acquisition of property, courage, backbone, fearlessness, and the building up of the spirit of brotherhood among ourselves."

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# JOHN PAYNE TURNER

Dr. John Payne Turner, of Washington City, is the son of the late distinguished Bishop Henry McNeil Turner, whose rugged pioneer work for the race at a time when trained leaders were rare, marked him as a man among men. He was freeborn as was his wife Eliza Anna (Peacher) Turner. Just before the outbreak of the war which was to bring freedom and opportunity, there was a movement agitated in South Carolina where the Turners lived to enslave all persons of color regardless of their previous status. To escape the consequence of such action they moved to Baltimore and it was here their oldest son, our subject, was born on March 1, 1859. About this time John Brown was paying the penalty of having espoused the cause of the slave. So it was not strange that the boy should be named for that martyr of the race. With that name was coupled the name of a great churchman, Bishop Payne, and the boy was called John Payne Turner.

His early boyhood was spent in Baltimore. After the war his family moved to Atlanta, from which the father for half a century exerted an influence second to no colored man in the South. In the meantime the boy laid the foundation of his education in Atlanta University, then in its infancy. These years of his youth in the South gave Dr. Turner a point of view which has made it possible during his life to work without friction side by side with the men of every section.

In 1877, he came to Washington to attend Howard University and while a freshman through the influence of Alexander Stephens secured an appointment in the Government service. That was forty-four years ago, nearly half a century—and to-day he is one of the honored employes of the Pension Bureau and in point of time is one of the veterans of the service.

He took the medical course, winning his M. D. degree in 1880. For four years, Dr. Turner was special examiner in the field including the states of Kansas, Nebraska and Arkansas.

Dr. Turner was married on March 25, 1885, and has three children. They are: Olive T. (Mrs. Reynolds), Eliza (Mrs. Frazier), and Miss May F. Turner.



In politics, Dr. Turner is a Republican. He is identified with the church of his father—the A. M. E., and has held the various offices of his local church.

For nearly thirty years he has been a Mason. In 1919 he was elected G. M. of the order in the District, which position he held for two years. The records indicate the prosperity of the order under his administration. He is also a P. G. Com. of the Knights Templars and in 1914 was elected President of the International Conference of Knights Templars' meeting in Pittsburg.

Dr. Turner has kept in touch with the movement of affairs and is a careful student of racial conditions. From years of observation and experience he concludes that the primary needs of the race from the material point of view, are education and property.

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## HERBERT C. D. WILSON

If one were to catalogue the ministers of Washington by the states in which they were born a goodly percentage of them would be listed under North Carolina. This is especially applicable to the Baptist ministry of the Capital City, including, along with the subject of this biography, men like Norman, Bullech, Holloman and others.

H. C. D. Wilson, now (1921) pastor of the Walker Memorial Baptist Church, is a native of Currituck County, N. C., where he was born at Moyock on March 9, 1885. His father, Edmond Wilson, was the son of Isaac and Nancy (Mercer) Wilson. The Wilsons were free born and had been land owners long before the war. The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Miss Alice Cuffee, daughter of Bill and Lydia Cuffee.

Young Wilson grew up on the Currituck County farm and remained there till he was grown to young manhood. He laid the foundation of his education in the local public schools. Later he entered the State Normal School at Elizabeth City where he took the Normal Course.



HERBERT C. D. WILSON

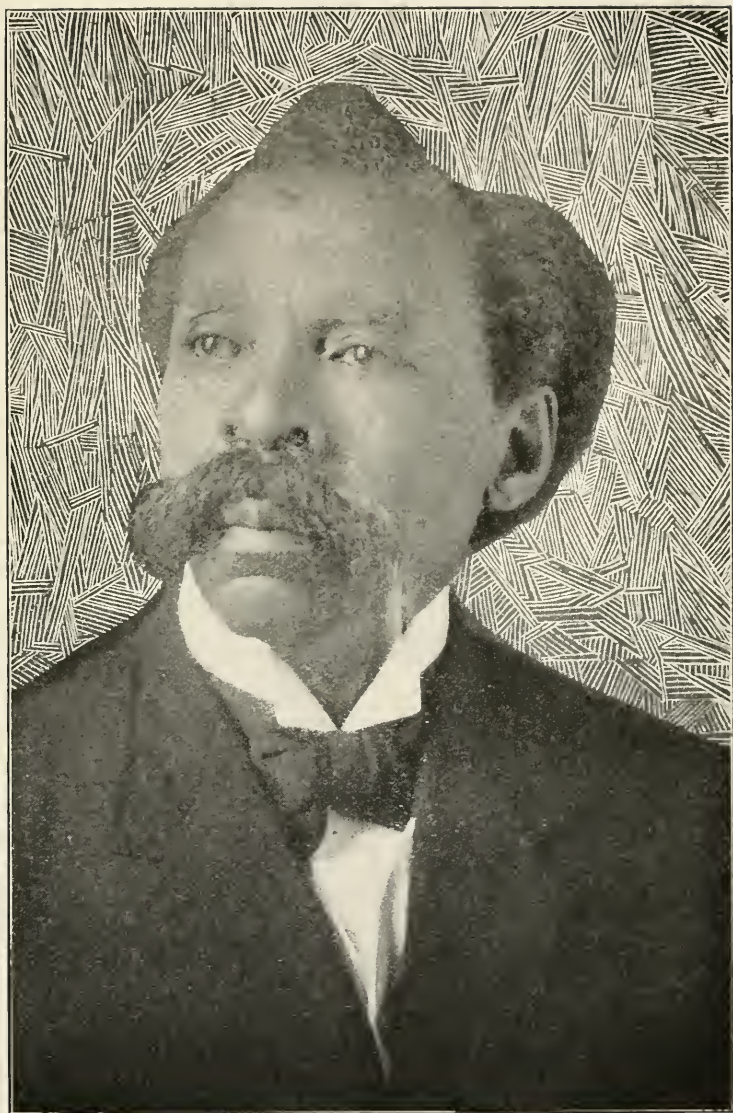
In 1901, he was converted and joined the Christian Home Baptist Church. Later when he felt called to preach he realized the need of more adequate equipment and so matriculated at Virginia Union University for both his academic and theological work. He was at that institution for six years.

Mr. Wilson's early life was spent under the influences of a Christian home. His parents were ambitious for him and the father was making preparation to send the son to school when he passed away. Thus bereaved, the boy found it necessary to make his own way in school, which he did by working on the farm, in the railroad shops and later in the Pullman service, which took him to every part of the country and was itself a liberalizing influence, besides enabling him to secure the education he so much desired.

When through the Normal he began teaching. His first school was in Norfolk County, Va. Later he combined teaching and preaching in Louisa County, Va.

Mr. Wilson was licensed to preach by the home church in 1910. In 1916 he was called to the pastorate of Wayland Church, near Louisa, Va., and was by that church ordained to the full work of the ministry, though of course, by the authority of his home church. He served Wayland Church two years. While there an organ was purchased and various repairs made about the place. Both the membership and the finances were increased by a hundred per cent. During 1917, he also served the First Union Church at Beaver Dam, where the work was marked by healthy growth. Early in 1918 he accepted the call of the Walker Memorial Baptist Church of Washington. The situation could scarcely have been less promising. The membership had dwindled to forty, the property had been sold twice, and the rental, which was to have been paid, was several hundred dollars in arrears. The young pastor went bravely to work. In three years time the membership has gone from forty to two hundred twenty-eight, the Sunday School has increased more than two hundred per cent and the financial situation greatly relieved by the raising of sixteen thousand dollars in three years. The church and the pastor have standing in the denomination and what looked like a hopeless situation has been turned into success.

Mr. Wilson does not divide or scatter his efforts, but with singleness of purpose devotes himself to the ministry. He



EMORY WALLACE WILLIAMS



went South under the direction of the Freedmen's Board of the Presbyterian Church. He was licensed to preach by the Fairfield Presbytery at Blackstock, S. C., in the summer of 1881, and in October of that year went to Abbeville, S. C., where he was to spend more than a third of a century, and where, as minister and educator, he made a name for himself. A Presbyterian Church was organized at Abbeville, and a house of worship erected, which the young preacher served with growing satisfaction to the community, white and colored, for a number of years. A parochial school was begun, which, during the changing vicissitudes of a generation, did its beneficent work in that part of the South. In this as in many other things, Dr. Williams was a pioneer.

In the early nineties, there developed in the minds of the colored Presbyterian ministers of South Carolina a feeling that there were greater possibilities for the race than were then being realized, for the spread of Presbyterianism. Dr. Williams became a leader among these brethren. The matter was carefully examined from every point of view, and in 1897 Dr. Williams was sent to the General Assembly sitting at Charlotte, N. C., to make known to that body the purpose of the colored brethren. The Assembly sanctioned the calling of a convention and tendered to the brethren cordial co-operation. The Convention was called in 1897 at Birmingham, Ala., with representatives present from six Presbyteries. After clearing up the preliminaries, the convention adjourned to meet in New Orleans the following May. At that meeting Dr. Williams was elected Moderator and the Afro-American Presbyterian Church was organized. Prior to this he had been travelling extensively over the country in order that he might present the matter to the brotherhood. The organization was maintained for several years, but as the response did not seem to warrant the time and expense necessary to keep it going, the churches again took their places in their respective Presbyteries. The Afro-American Presbyterian Church ceased its practical operations because it lacked the personal leadership of Dr. Williams, who left the South in 1913.

The Ferguson Williams College at Abbeville continued to operate, but conditions arose on that field and in the denomination which rendered it an unfruitful field for Dr. Williams, though it is only fair to say that he never lacked friends in Abbeville.



On December 5, 1882, Dr. Williams married Miss Ella Virginia Chase of Washington. They have three children, Virginia L., Ada Ellen, and Miriam W. Williams. Mrs. Williams, herself an accomplished teacher, was also active in the work of the school at Abbeville.

Several years ago, Dr. Williams moved to Washington, where he is now identified with the City Playgrounds. He still keeps alive the Theological Department of his college. While not in the active pastorate, Dr. Williams is in demand for supply work and is always ready to lend a hand when he can be of service in the Kingdom.

Dr. Williams has traveled extensively in this country and is a well informed man. Next after the Bible his favorite reading consists of history and poetry.

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